
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5332

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Energy & Utilities (originally sponsored by Senators Finkbeiner, Strannigan, Schow and Benton)

Read first time 02/24/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to multimedia kiosks of the Washington information
2 network; amending RCW 43.105.290; adding a new section to chapter
3 43.105 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the forty-eight
6 electronic kiosks throughout the state that comprise part of the
7 Washington information network have played an important role in
8 furthering the goals of RCW 43.105.250 by ensuring electronic access to
9 government services and information to citizens who lack access to home
10 computers or electronic network services, to citizens who lack
11 technical or literacy skills to use computers, and to citizens with
12 disabilities. However, the legislature further finds that given the
13 rapid advances in networking technology, these electronic kiosks may
14 not be the most cost-effective, long-term technology through which to
15 offer public electronic access. The legislature recognizes the efforts
16 of the department of information services in exploring and developing
17 more cost-effective successor technologies and applications for the
18 electronic delivery of government services and information.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.105 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The department shall not expend any funds to increase the
4 number of electronic kiosks in the Washington information network. For
5 the purposes of this section "electronic kiosks" means public
6 electronic access terminals, similar to those deployed on the effective
7 date of this section, that rely on dedicated circuits and that do not
8 provide for internet connectivity or financial transactions. This
9 section does not prohibit the department from expending funds to
10 maintain or operate the currently deployed kiosks on an interim basis
11 as it develops electronic information access services through
12 technologies that the department deems more efficient and
13 cost-effective.

14 (2) The department shall report to the appropriate legislative
15 committees by January 1, 1998, on developments in networking technology
16 as they relate to the Washington information network, including the use
17 of the home, library, and office-based work stations to provide public
18 electronic access to government services and information, and on the
19 department's efforts to develop and implement cost-effective
20 alternative or successor technologies for the public electronic
21 delivery of such services and information.

22 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.105.290 and 1996 c 171 s 13 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 The state library, with the assistance of the department of
25 information services and the state archives, shall establish a pilot
26 project to design and test an electronic information locator system,
27 allowing members of the public to locate and access electronic public
28 records. In designing the system, the following factors shall be
29 considered: (1) Ease of operation by citizens; (2) access through
30 multiple technologies, such as direct dial and toll-free numbers,
31 kiosks and successor technologies, and the internet; (3) compatibility
32 with private on-line services; and (4) capability of expanding the
33 electronic public records included in the system. The pilot project
34 may restrict the type and quality of electronic public records that are
35 included in the system to test the feasibility of making electronic
36 public records and information widely available to the public.

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