
SENATE BILL 6689

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Prince, Winsley, Kline, B. Sheldon, Haugen, Goings, Fraser, Fairley, Wood and Thibaudeau

Read first time 01/27/98. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to ensuring equal opportunity without quotas in
2 public employment, education, and contracting; and adding a new section
3 to chapter 49.60 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The state is prohibited from using quotas that require hiring
8 or selecting persons in public employment, education, and contracting,
9 based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin.

10 (2) For the purposes of this section, "quota" means a fixed number
11 or percentage that must be attained or cannot be exceeded, and that
12 violates the United States Constitution.

13 (3) For the purposes of this section, "state" means the state of
14 Washington, any city, county, public college or university, community
15 college, school district, special district, or other political
16 subdivision or governmental instrumentality of or within the state.

17 (4) No affirmative action program operated by the state may hire or
18 select unqualified persons.

1 (5) The state may ensure equal opportunity in public employment,
2 education, and contracting and prevent discrimination based on race,
3 sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin to the extent permissible
4 under the United States Constitution.

5 (6) Nothing in this section limits the ability of courts to correct
6 the effects of, or prevent, discrimination.

7 (7) Nothing in this section prohibits action reasonably taken to
8 ensure eligibility for any federal program, where ineligibility could
9 result in a loss of federal funds to the state.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If any provision of this act or its
11 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
12 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
13 persons or circumstances is not affected.

--- END ---