

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS HB 2382

Title: An act relating to splitting the department of community, trade, and economic development and reestablishing the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development.

Brief Description: Splitting the department of community, trade, and economic development and reestablishing the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development.

Sponsors: Van Luven, Veloria, O'Brien, Mitchell, Kenney, Edwards, D. Schmidt, Talcott, Dunn, Haigh, McDonald, Ogden, H. Sommers and D. Sommers; by request of Governor Locke.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF BILL

- Renames the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development the Department of Community Development and reestablishes the Department of Trade and Economic Development on July 1, 2000.
- Revises appropriate statutory references to the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development for programs, boards, or commissions to either the Department of Community Development or the Department of Trade and Economic Development, or in some cases to reference both departments.

HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRADE COMMITTEE

Staff: Kenny Pittman (786-7392)

Background:

The Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development was created by merging the Department of Community Development and Department of Trade and Economic Development in 1993. The Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development is responsible for assisting in community and economic development in the state; providing technical and financial assistance to local governments, businesses, and community-based organizations; soliciting private and federal grants for economic and community development programs; and conducting the necessary research and analysis to support economic and community development efforts.

The key service areas of the department are: (1) local government assistance that support development through growth management and infrastructure financing, and archaeology and historic preservation; (2) economic development that includes tourism promotion, film and video, business assistance, and rural development; (3) community services that support local efforts to develop self-reliant individuals and families through prevention, intervention, technical assistance and advocacy programs; (4) housing and housing-related services that include emergency shelter assistance, manufacturing housing, and the housing trust fund; (5) international trade assistance that includes export/import development; and (6) energy policy.

Summary of Bill:

Effective July 1, 2000, the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (DCTED) is renamed the Department of Community Development (DCD) and the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) is reestablished.

Department of Community Development

The Department of Community Development (DCD) is responsible for promoting community development within the state by assisting communities to increase their economic vitality, while maintaining a healthy environment. The DCD's community development efforts are focused on: (1) local government services, that include growth management, community development assistance, and public works financing; (2) housing services, that include emergency shelter, manufactured housing, farmworker housing, and the housing trust fund; (3) community services, that include early childhood education and assistance, public safety, and victims rights advocacy; and (4) energy services, that are limited to energy facility siting.

Department of Trade and Economic Development

The Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) is responsible for working with local communities and businesses to respond to economic problems and challenges. The DTED's trade and economic development efforts are focused on (1) economic development services, that include business assistance, community development financing and lending, downtown revitalization, film and video, tourism, rural development, and technology development; (2) energy policy services, that are limited to energy policy, and energy emergencies and contingency planning; (3) international trade services, that include target and market sectors, foreign trade offices, and local export development; and (4) workfirst services, that include business outreach, community jobs, employer assistance, and local area planning.

Miscellaneous Provisions

Where appropriate, statutory references to the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (DCTED) are changed to either the Department of Community Development (DCD) or the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED). Statutory references to several boards and programs are revised to include both the DCD and the DTED.

Appropriation: \$1.3 million from the general fund--state for fiscal year 2001.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Sections 101 through 126, 201 through 227, 301 through 350, 401 through 414, 501 through 557, and 601 of this act take effect July 1, 2000.