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HOUSE BILL 2931

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Chandler, Stensen, Cox, Schoesler, Wolfe, Grant, Mastin, Kessler, Linville, Doumit, Mulliken, Benson, Alexander, McMorris, Koster, Van Luven, Boldt, McDonald, Regala, Ogden, G. Chandler, Skinner and Haigh

Read first time 01/24/2000. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing recommendations for continued funding  
2 assistance of fairs and youth shows; creating new sections; providing  
3 an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that fairs and youth  
6 shows provide communities with many tangible and intangible benefits  
7 including providing responsible and productive educational  
8 opportunities for youth and providing an annual community festivity  
9 that brings together people of all ages.

10 The legislature finds that fairs and youth shows are a rich  
11 tradition and that state funds have been distributed to many fairs and  
12 youth shows for several decades. However, the traditional source of  
13 funding that fairs and youth shows have relied upon has become  
14 undependable.

15 The purpose of this act is to establish a task force to develop  
16 recommendations for long-term funding of community, county, and area  
17 fairs and youth shows.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) There is hereby created the task force  
2 on funding of fairs and youth shows. The task force shall be comprised  
3 of the following members:

4        (a) One member of the office of financial management appointed by  
5 the governor;

6        (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one from each  
7 major caucus, appointed by the co-speakers of the house of  
8 representatives;

9        (c) Two members of the senate, one from each major caucus,  
10 appointed by the president of the senate;

11       (d) One representative of the department of agriculture, appointed  
12 by the director of the department of agriculture;

13       (e) One representative of the horse racing commission, appointed by  
14 the chair of the horse racing commission;

15       (f) Three representatives of fairs, appointed by the president of  
16 the state fairs association, one to represent each of the following:  
17 Community fairs, large county and area fairs, and small county and area  
18 fairs;

19       (g) One representative of youth shows, appointed by the dean of the  
20 college of agriculture and home economics at Washington State  
21 University;

22       (h) One representative of the horse racing industry appointed by  
23 agreement of the co-speakers of the house of representatives and  
24 president of the senate; and

25       (i) One representative of county governments, appointed by the  
26 Washington association of counties.

27       (2) The task force shall conduct an inquiry to become knowledgeable  
28 about the following:

29       (a) The December 1, 1999, report by the joint legislative audit and  
30 review committee;

31       (b) The operations of fairs and youth shows, and how state funding  
32 assistance has been used in recent decades to support these events;

33       (c) How fairs and youth shows are administered, and the nature of  
34 revenues and expenditures that support these events;

35       (d) How the state fair fund has been administered, and whether  
36 there are efficiency improvements to reduce the cost of administering  
37 the state fair fund; and

38       (e) Whether there are efficiency improvements to reduce the cost of  
39 administration of the horse racing commission.

1       (3) By November 15, 2000, the task force shall develop  
2 recommendations on the amount and source or sources of funding needed  
3 to encourage fairs and youth shows and any legislative proposals needed  
4 to implement the task force recommendations.

5       (4) The task force shall convene as soon as possible upon  
6 appointment of its members. Members shall be appointed by May 1, 2000.  
7 The task force shall elect a chair and agree upon rules for conducting  
8 the business of the task force. Staff support for the task force shall  
9 be provided by the legislature.

10       (5) This section expires December 31, 2000.

11       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
13 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
14 immediately.

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