

EHCR 4419 - S AMD

By Senator Honeyford

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "WHEREAS, issues of international trade, overseas outsourcing, and
4 government procurement contracts have recently generated concern and
5 discussion in Washington and across the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, the issue of outsourcing is deeply connected with legal,
7 economic, social, cultural, and technological aspects of international
8 and domestic trade; and

9 WHEREAS, the State of Washington is the most trade-dependent state
10 in the United States, with approximately one of every four Washington
11 jobs dependent on international trade; and

12 WHEREAS, the extent to which the State of Washington contracts for
13 state services where work is done in whole or in part at jobsites
14 overseas is only now beginning to be compiled; and

15 WHEREAS, reliable data is only now emerging to accurately assess
16 the benefits and impacts of outsourcing on a local and national level,
17 including the impacts of outsourcing on Washington's trade-dependent
18 status; and

19 WHEREAS, balanced and impartial collection, study, and evaluation
20 of such data is necessary to ensure adequate legislative oversight of
21 state agency outsourcing and the potential ramifications of such
22 oversight, positive and negative, for Washington's economy and business
23 climate;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of
25 the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That a study of
26 outsourcing work on state agency contracts be conducted to evaluate the
27 following issues:

28 A full survey of state contracts, and any subcontracts awarded
29 under such contracts, the work on which is being performed at locations
30 both outside the State of Washington and outside United States;

31 The applicability of federal interstate commerce law and
32 international trade agreements to state procurement policies, and the
33 degree to which legislative oversight is preserved or preempted under

1 such laws and agreements;

2 The economic benefit of awarding personal services, purchased
3 services, civil service, and public works contracts to Washington
4 companies or United States companies where some or all work is
5 performed overseas, including a comparison of the availability and cost
6 of contracts using only Washington or United States labor;

7 The impact of performing work on state agency contracts overseas on
8 the development and furthering of relationships with new and existing
9 trading partners;

10 Issues relative to retraining workers who are separated from
11 employment because their positions were outsourced to locations outside
12 the United States, and issues relative to their eligibility for
13 training benefits under RCW 50.22.150; and

14 The number of workers in Washington whose jobs are dependent in
15 whole or in part on work from overseas companies or governments or the
16 governments of other states; and

17 To what extent, if any, Washington's trading partners have
18 retaliated historically in response to legislative actions that limited
19 trading opportunities;

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the study be conducted by a joint task
21 force of the House of Representatives and the Senate consisting of the
22 following: One representative to be appointed by the Speaker of the
23 House of Representatives, one representative to be appointed by the
24 minority leader of the House of Representatives, one senator to be
25 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, and one senator to be
26 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint task force may as needed
28 appoint an advisory committee composed of an appropriate number of
29 representatives from the business and labor interests in Washington
30 state, as well as individuals with any economic, legal, or other
31 technical skill necessary to analyze the issues set forth above;

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the findings and recommendations of
33 the joint task force shall be reported to the house of representatives
34 committees on commerce and labor, state government, technology,
35 telecommunications, and energy, trade and economic development, the
36 senate committees on commerce and trade, economic development,
37 government operations and elections, and technology and communications,
38 and the joint legislative oversight committee on trade policy, or their
39 successor committees, by December 1, 2005."

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