

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 3070

As Passed House:

February 16, 2004

Title: An act relating to the joint legislative oversight committee on trade policy.

Brief Description: Modifying the appointment process for the joint legislative oversight committee on trade policy.

Sponsors: By Representatives Veloria and Chase.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Trade & Economic Development: 2/3/04, 2/5/04 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/16/04, 94-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes the Governor to appoint the ex-officio members of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRADE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 12 members: Representatives Veloria, Chair; Skinner, Ranking Minority Member; McDonald, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Blake, Chase, Condotta, Kristiansen, McCoy, Ormsby, Pettigrew, Priest and Rodne.

Staff: Tracey Taylor (786-7196).

Background:

In 2003, the Legislature approved Substitute House Bill 1059 which created the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy. The committee membership is composed of two members from the two major caucuses in each house of the Legislature as well as three ex-officio members. The ex-officio members include a representative from the Washington State Department of Agriculture, the state trade representative and a representative from the Office of the Attorney General. The members of the Senate are appointed by the President of the Senate and the members of the House are appointed by

the Speaker of the House. The Senate President and the Speaker of the House also appoint the ex-officio members.

The Governor vetoed the sentence regarding the appointment of ex-officio members. In his veto letter, he indicated the ex-officio members were members of the executive branch; therefore, the ex-officio members should be appointed by the executive branch. His veto was later withdrawn.

Summary of Bill:

The Governor, not the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, will appoint the ex-officio members of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on April 1, 2004.

Testimony For: This bill fixes a technical error from last year.

Testimony Against: None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Veloria, prime sponsor.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None