

6146

Sponsor(s): Senators Fraser, Morton, Esser, Eide, Winsley, Kohl-Welles, Keiser and Kline

Brief Description: Encouraging renewable energy and energy efficiency businesses in Washington.

SB 6146 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares it to be the policy of the state that its public agencies and institutions of higher learning maximize their efforts collectively and cooperatively with the private sector to establish the state as a leader in clean energy research, development, manufacturing, and marketing. To this end, all state agencies are directed to employ their existing authorities and responsibilities to: (1) Work with local organizations and energy companies to facilitate the development and implementation of workable renewable energy projects;

(2) Actively promote policies that support renewable energy development;

(3) Encourage utilities and customer groups to invest in new renewables; and

(4) Assist in the development of stronger markets for renewables.

Directs the Washington technology center and the department of community, trade, and economic development to jointly create the renewable energy business council for the purposes set forth in this act and to further the policies of state leadership in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

Provides that, for the period between July 1, 2004, and June 30, 2009, the Washington technology center shall allocate no less than twenty-five percent of the funds available under its research and technology development grants program to applicants developing technologies in renewable energy or energy efficiency.