

ESB 5381 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Higher Education

ADOPTED 04/06/2005

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that public policies  
4 and programs will be improved when informed by independent scientific  
5 analysis and communication with state and local policymakers.  
6 Throughout the state there are highly qualified persons in a wide range  
7 of scientific disciplines who are willing to contribute their time and  
8 expertise in such reviews, but that presently there is lacking an  
9 organizational structure in which the entire scientific community may  
10 most effectively respond to requests for assessments of complex public  
11 policy questions. Therefore it is the purpose of this act to authorize  
12 the creation of the Washington academy of sciences as a nonprofit  
13 entity independent of government, whose principal mission will be the  
14 provision of scientific analysis and recommendations on questions  
15 referred to the academy by the governor, the governor's designee, or  
16 the legislature.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Washington academy of sciences  
18 authorized to be formed under section 3 of this act shall serve as a  
19 principal source of scientific investigation, examination, and  
20 reporting on scientific questions referred to the academy by the  
21 governor or the legislature under the provisions of section 4 of this  
22 act. Nothing in this section or this chapter supersedes or diminishes  
23 the responsibilities performed by scientists employed by the state or  
24 its political subdivisions.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The presidents of the University of  
26 Washington and Washington State University shall jointly form and serve  
27 as the cochairs of an organizing committee for the purpose of creating  
28 the Washington academy of sciences as an independent entity to carry

1 out the purposes of this chapter. The committee should be  
2 representative of appropriate disciplines from the academic, private,  
3 governmental, and research sectors.

4 (2) Staff from the University of Washington and Washington State  
5 University, and from other available entities, shall provide support to  
6 the organizing committee under the direction of the cochairs.

7 (3)(a) The committee shall investigate organizational structures  
8 that will ensure the participation or membership in the academy of  
9 scientists and experts with distinction in their fields, and that will  
10 ensure broad participation among the several disciplines that may be  
11 called upon in the investigation, examination, and reporting upon  
12 questions referred to the academy by the governor or the legislature.

13 (b) The organizational structure shall include a process by which  
14 the academy responds to inquiries from the governor or the legislature,  
15 including but not limited to the identification of research projects,  
16 past or present, at Washington or other research institutions and the  
17 findings of such research projects.

18 (4) The committee cochairs shall use their best efforts to form the  
19 committee by January 1, 2006, and to complete the committee's review by  
20 April 30, 2007. By April 30, 2007, the committee, or such individuals  
21 as the committee selects, shall file articles of incorporation to  
22 create the academy as a Washington independent organizational entity.  
23 The articles shall expressly recognize the power and responsibility of  
24 the academy to provide services as described in section 4 of this act  
25 upon request of the governor, the governor's designee, or the  
26 legislature. The articles shall also provide for a board of directors  
27 of the academy that includes distinguished scientists from the range of  
28 disciplines that may be called upon to provide such services to the  
29 state and its political subdivisions, and provide a balance of  
30 representation from the academic, private, governmental, and research  
31 sectors.

32 (5) The articles shall provide for all such powers as may be  
33 appropriate or necessary to carry out the academy's purposes under this  
34 chapter, to the full extent allowable under the proposed organizational  
35 structure.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The academy shall investigate, examine,  
37 and report on any subject of science requested by the governor, the

1 governor's designee, or the legislature. The procedures for selecting  
2 panels of experts to respond to such requests shall be set forth in the  
3 bylaws or other appropriate operating guidelines. In forming review  
4 panels, the academy shall endeavor to assure that the panel members  
5 have no conflicts of interest and that proposed panelists first  
6 disclose any advocacy positions or financial interest related to the  
7 questions to be addressed by the panel that the candidate has held  
8 within the past ten years.

9 (2) The governor shall provide funding to the academy for the  
10 actual expense of such investigation, examination, and reports. Such  
11 funding shall be in addition to state funding assistance to the academy  
12 in its initial years of operation as described in section 6 of this  
13 act.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The academy may carry out functions or  
15 provide services to its members and the public in addition to the  
16 services provided under section 4 of this act, such as public education  
17 programs, newsletters, web sites, science fairs, and research  
18 assistance.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The organizational committee shall recommend  
20 procedures and funding requirements for receiving and disbursing  
21 funding in support of the academy's programs and services in a report  
22 to the governor and the appropriate committees of the senate and house  
23 of representatives no later than April 30, 2007.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute  
25 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW."

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