
HOUSE BILL 2202

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Grant, Hinkle, Clibborn, Curtis, Linville, Eickmeyer, Newhouse, McCoy, Buri, Morrell, Kilmer, Chase, Pettigrew, Morris, Hudgins, Simpson, Conway and Santos

Read first time 02/23/2005. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to the economic impact of the agriculture and food
2 processing industries; creating new sections; and making an
3 appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington's
6 agriculture and food processing industries are diversified, productive,
7 and significant contributors to our state's economy. Urban and rural
8 communities statewide benefit from the direct jobs, income, and
9 revenues generated by the production of commodities and processing of
10 food. However, these direct impacts do not represent the full value of
11 these industries to our economy. The legislature finds that an
12 accurate and comprehensive assessment of the economic impacts of
13 agriculture and food processing is needed to assist in the development
14 of good public policy and planning for the future.

15 (2) The department of agriculture shall commission a comprehensive
16 study of the direct, indirect, and induced impacts of agriculture and
17 food processing on the state's economy. The study shall consider the
18 multiplier effects of the agriculture and food industries on sectors
19 such as: Transportation; research and development; retailing;

1 packaging; distribution and storage; inputs; banking; law;
2 manufacturing; tourism; and other relevant industries. The study shall
3 include data on the statewide and regional impacts of the agriculture
4 and food processing industries; growth trends of specific commodities
5 and value-added products; and external events or conditions that are
6 affecting the economic performance of the agriculture and food industry
7 overall.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of agriculture shall use a
9 competitive process to select a contractor to conduct the study. The
10 department of agriculture shall convene an advisory committee to help
11 determine the scope of the study, select the contractor, and provide
12 industry data as needed. The advisory committee may include, but not
13 be limited to, representatives of agricultural commodity commissions
14 and organizations, food industry organizations, local economic
15 development councils, and state agencies including the department of
16 community, trade, and economic development, the employment security
17 department, and the department of revenue.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of agriculture shall submit
19 a report on the study findings and recommendations to the appropriate
20 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2005.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or
22 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
23 year ending June 30, 2006, from the general fund to the department of
24 agriculture for the purposes of this act.

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