
SENATE BILL 5330

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Rasmussen, Berkey, McAuliffe and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/20/2005. Referred to Committee on International Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to economic development grants; adding a new
2 section to chapter 43.330 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that state-supported
5 economic development efforts, including work force training, technology
6 transfer, and industrial modernization, can make a significant
7 difference in the health and diversification of the state's economy.
8 There are numerous federal and private economic development grant
9 programs and research projects designed to increase the competitiveness
10 of American firms and local work forces, for which state agencies and
11 local consortiums are eligible to apply. The legislature further
12 finds that state agencies in Washington have not maximized the
13 opportunities available to receive federal and private funds to augment
14 state economic development efforts.

15 The legislature declares that it is the state's policy to maximize
16 the use of federal and private funds for economic development purposes
17 and to devote state resources to leverage federal and private dollars
18 to supplement state economic development efforts. In furtherance of

1 this policy, it is the purpose of section 2 of this act to authorize
2 and fund a technical assistance and grant writing program within the
3 department of community, trade, and economic development.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The economic development grants program is created in the
7 department to be staffed by at least one grant writer either on
8 contract or on staff. Program staff shall:

9 (1) Regularly review the federal register for opportunities to
10 apply for grants, research projects, and demonstration projects;

11 (2) Stay abreast of grant opportunities with private foundations
12 and businesses;

13 (3) Correspond and meet with federal officials, including those in
14 the small business administration, the department of labor, the
15 department of commerce, and the department of health and human
16 services, as well as foundation and business officials, on the
17 prospects for obtaining federal and private funds for economic
18 development purposes in Washington state;

19 (4) Apprise the agency directors and division heads of the
20 department of community, trade, and economic development, the
21 employment security department, the department of agriculture, the
22 Washington technology center, the Washington manufacturing service, and
23 other state agencies as appropriate, of the opportunities for federal
24 and private grant dollars for economic development projects;

25 (5) Assist state agencies in their grant-seeking efforts for
26 economic development projects. Grant writing for and assistance in
27 grant writing for projects sponsored or cosponsored by state agencies
28 shall be the highest priority of the program's work;

29 (6) Write grant requests to further the state's economic
30 development efforts;

31 (7) Facilitate joint efforts between agencies and between local
32 consortiums and state agencies that will increase the likelihood of
33 success in grant seeking; and

34 (8) Garner the political support necessary from federal and state
35 elected and appointed officials for success in grant seeking.

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