
SENATE BILL 5902

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Senators Eide, Shin, Zarelli, Doumit, Rasmussen and Pflug

Read first time 02/14/2005. Referred to Committee on International Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to small business and entrepreneurial development;
2 creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that small
5 technology-based firms are the source of approximately one-half of the
6 economy's major innovations and that it is in the interest of the state
7 to increase participation by Washington state small businesses in the
8 federal small business innovation research program by assisting them in
9 becoming small business innovation research program grant recipients.

10 The legislature further finds that many small business innovators
11 lack the grant-writing skills necessary to prepare a successful small
12 business innovation research program proposal, and the federal program
13 that funded grant-writing assistance has stopped operations. Nearly
14 fifty percent of small businesses trained under the federal program won
15 grants compared to less than ten percent of those that did not receive
16 training.

17 (2) As used in this section:

18 (a) "Small business innovation research program" means the program,

1 enacted pursuant to the small business innovation development act of
2 1982, P.L. 97-219, that provided funds to small businesses to conduct
3 innovative research having commercial application.

4 (b) "Small business" means a corporation, partnership, sole
5 proprietorship, or individual, operating a business for profit, with
6 two hundred fifty employees or fewer, including employees employed in
7 a subsidiary or affiliated corporation, that otherwise meets the
8 requirements of the federal small business innovation research program.

9 (3) The Washington technology center shall establish a small
10 business innovation research program proposal review process to train
11 and assist Washington small businesses to win phase I small business
12 innovation research program awards.

13 (a) The Washington technology center shall give priority to
14 first-time small business innovation research program applicants, new
15 businesses, and firms with fewer than ten employees.

16 (b) The Washington technology center may charge a fee for this
17 service that is contingent upon the small business's receipt of a phase
18 I award.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of forty-five thousand dollars, or
20 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
21 ending June 30, 2007, from the general fund to the department of
22 community, trade, and economic development for the purposes of section
23 1 of this act.

--- END ---