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SENATE BILL 6261

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators Delvin and Mulliken

Read first time 01/10/2006. Referred to Committee on International Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to small business and entrepreneurial development;  
2 and amending RCW 28B.20.297.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.20.297 and 2005 c 357 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

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

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

19 (2) As used in this section:

1 (a) "Small business innovation research program" means the program,  
2 enacted pursuant to the small business innovation development act of  
3 1982, P.L. 97-219, that provided funds to small businesses to conduct  
4 innovative research having commercial application.

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

10 (3) The Washington technology center and Washington State  
11 University shall each establish a small business innovation research  
12 assistance program, including a proposal review process, to train and  
13 assist Washington small businesses to win phase I small business  
14 innovation research program awards.

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

19 (b) The Washington technology center and Washington State  
20 University may charge a fee for this service.

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