

2SSB 5367 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Community & Economic Development & Trade

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

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The Washington trade corps fellowship
4 program is established at the University of Washington center for
5 international business education and research to promote international
6 trade and award fellowships to students who have shown significant
7 interest in pursuing a career in international trade.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
9 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply to sections 1 through
10 7 of this act.

11 (1) "Center" means the center for international business education
12 and research at the University of Washington.

13 (2) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
14 economic development, or the department of agriculture.

15 (3) "Fellow" means the recipient of a Washington trade corps
16 fellowship award.

17 (4) "Institution" means an accredited public or private university
18 or college within the state of Washington.

19 (5) "Trade office" means an office located outside the United
20 States operated by a private company, an industry association, an
21 agricultural commodity commission, or similar organization to promote
22 its products or services; or funded by the department of community,
23 trade, and economic development, the department of agriculture, or the
24 United States commercial service of the department of commerce for the
25 purpose of promoting international trade and commerce.

26 (6) "Trading company" means a private company operating in the
27 state with at least one trade office.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Candidates for the fellowship must be:

1 (a) A resident student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012;

2 (b) Enrolled in an institution's program offering a degree or
3 credential in international trade, international relations,
4 international business, or a related area;

5 (c) Proficient in the language common to the area in which they
6 will be placed;

7 (d) Able to work in international trade activities that benefit
8 Washington state products, services, or international trade interests
9 for two years after completing the fellowship. This requirement may
10 start as soon as the fellowship is completed but no later than one year
11 after graduation from the educational program in which the fellow is
12 enrolled; and

13 (e) Accountable for repayment to the trade corps fellowship program
14 the total amount of state funding provided to the fellow if the
15 requirements of the fellowship are not fulfilled in their entirety.

16 (2) The center also may require that prospective fellowship
17 candidates intern in the state with a trading company or a department
18 as a prerequisite to applying for a fellowship.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) A fellowship must be available for no
20 more than five persons per year. Fellows shall serve a minimum of six
21 months and may serve a maximum of eighteen months.

22 (2) Fellows shall be compensated with a stipend and provided living
23 and travel expenses while overseas. The total cost provided by the
24 center per fellow, per year, must not exceed twenty-five thousand
25 dollars, at least fifty percent of which must be derived by the center
26 from nonstate sources.

27 (3) Institutions are encouraged to and may provide students with
28 college credit for serving as a fellow.

29 (4) To raise the nonstate funding match required by subsection (2)
30 of this section, the center shall seek matching funds from trading
31 companies, other private companies, foundations, and other relevant
32 sources.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The center must appoint a committee to
34 assist it in evaluating and selecting applicants for the fellowships.
35 At least three of the committee members must be members of
36 organizations concerned with international trade; at least one must be

1 from a statewide organization; and at least two must represent regional
2 organizations from different regions of the state. At least three of
3 the committee members must be from institutions and have expertise in
4 international trade. The decision of the center in selecting fellows
5 is final.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The center must assign fellows to trade
7 offices in consultation with each fellow's institution. A placement in
8 a department's trade office will be made with the approval of the
9 department. The department may impose additional requirements as
10 necessary to facilitate the efficient operation of its trade offices.
11 No more than two fellows shall be assigned to any trade office at one
12 time.

13 (2) The center must require that the work of each fellow be focused
14 on activities that benefit products, services, and international trade
15 interests of Washington state.

16 (3) The center must establish reporting requirements, which the
17 fellows must meet. The center's reporting requirements may include
18 research of value to a trading company, a department's international
19 trade staff, or to trade promotion groups in the state, and may be in
20 conjunction with or in addition to any requirements of the institution.

21 (4) The center may require that the fellow enter into
22 postfellowship employment with a trading company or a department.

23 (5) The center may require that some or all of the fellowship costs
24 be repaid if the fellowship requirements are not met.

25 (6) The center must report to the legislature on the Washington
26 trade corps fellowship program by December 1, 2010, and by December 1st
27 of every other year thereafter.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Neither the center, the trading companies,
29 the departments, the institution, nor any other division of the state
30 is liable for injuries caused by a change in the security situation of
31 the country in which a fellow is stationed. Fellows must follow all
32 travel advisories published by the United States department of state
33 for the country in which they are stationed.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act are each
35 added to chapter 43.31 RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
2 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
3 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
4 void."

5 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Broadens the definition of "trade office" to allow for more placement options. Clarifies that the center may require prospective fellowship candidates to intern with a trading company or department prior to applying for a fellowship. Reduces the number of fellows per year from a maximum of 15 to a maximum of 5. Removes the minimum dollar amount for the stipend. Reduces the maximum total cost per fellow per year from the greater of \$25,000 or 60 percent of the state's average yearly wage, to \$25,000. Specifies that at least 50 percent of that amount must be from nonstate funding sources. Broadens the sources from which the center seeks these nonstate matching funds. Clarifies that the work of each fellow must focus on activities of benefit to Washington state.

Requires fellowship candidates to be able to work in international trade activities beneficial to Washington state for two years after the fellowship is complete. Allows the work to begin as soon as the fellowship is completed or by one year after graduation from the educational program. Requires fellowship candidates to be accountable for repaying to the program the total state funding provided to them if fellowship requirements are not entirely met.

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