
Local Government Committee

HB 3036

Brief Description: Requiring port districts to apply to the Washington state quality award.

Sponsors: Representatives Miloscia, Hudgins, Upthegrove and VanDeWege.

Brief Summary of Bill

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires port districts located in a county of one million or more residents to apply for the Washington State Quality Award. |
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Hearing Date: 2/1/08

Staff: Lyset Cadena (786-7291).

Background:

Port Districts

The Legislature passed the Port District Act in 1911 authorizing the creation of public port districts. This act allowed citizens to end private monopoly control over urban harbors and to create port districts with elected commissioners to govern them.

Port districts are authorized to acquire, build, maintain, operate, develop, and regulate the commercial transportation, transfer, storage, handling, and terminal facilities and industrial improvements within the district.

Washington State Quality Award

The Washington State Quality Award Council was created by statute in 2004 to oversee the Governor's Washington State Quality Award program. The Washington State Quality Award Council establishes guidelines to examine applicant organizations, approves appointments to the board of examiners, approves and announces award recipients, and arranges annual awards and recognition for recipients.

The Washington State Quality Award program's purpose is to improve overall competitiveness of the state's economy. This is accomplished by setting standards of organization excellence, encouraging organization self-assessment, identifying successful organizations as role models, and

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providing a mechanism for promoting and strengthening a commitment to quality improvement in all sectors of the state's economy.

Summary of Bill:

Port districts located in a county of one million or more residents are required to apply for the Washington State Quality Award starting no later than 2009 and continuing once every three years. The stated purpose of applying for the award is to assess the port district's management, accountability, and performance system. The application, assessments, and action plan must be posted on the port district's web site.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.