
SENATE BILL 6195

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Management.

1 AN ACT Relating to the definition of rural county for economic
2 development purposes; and amending RCW 43.160.020, 43.168.020, and
3 43.330.086.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.160.020 and 2004 c 252 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
8 this section apply throughout this chapter.

9 (1) "Board" means the community economic revitalization board.

10 (2) "Bond" means any bond, note, debenture, interim certificate, or
11 other evidence of financial indebtedness issued by the board pursuant
12 to this chapter.

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

15 (4) "Financial institution" means any bank, savings and loan
16 association, credit union, development credit corporation, insurance
17 company, investment company, trust company, savings institution, or
18 other financial institution approved by the board and maintaining an
19 office in the state.

1 (5) "Industrial development facilities" means "industrial
2 development facilities" as defined in RCW 39.84.020.

3 (6) "Industrial development revenue bonds" means tax-exempt revenue
4 bonds used to fund industrial development facilities.

5 (7) "Local government" or "political subdivision" means any port
6 district, county, city, town, special purpose district, and any other
7 municipal corporations or quasi-municipal corporations in the state
8 providing for public facilities under this chapter.

9 (8) "Sponsor" means any of the following entities which customarily
10 provide service or otherwise aid in industrial or other financing and
11 are approved as a sponsor by the board: A bank, trust company, savings
12 bank, investment bank, national banking association, savings and loan
13 association, building and loan association, credit union, insurance
14 company, or any other financial institution, governmental agency, or
15 holding company of any entity specified in this subsection.

16 (9) "Umbrella bonds" means industrial development revenue bonds
17 from which the proceeds are loaned, transferred, or otherwise made
18 available to two or more users under this chapter.

19 (10) "User" means one or more persons acting as lessee, purchaser,
20 mortgagor, or borrower under a financing document and receiving or
21 applying to receive revenues from bonds issued under this chapter.

22 (11) "Public facilities" means a project of a local government or
23 a federally recognized Indian tribe for the planning, acquisition,
24 construction, repair, reconstruction, replacement, rehabilitation, or
25 improvement of bridges, roads, domestic and industrial water, earth
26 stabilization, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, railroad, electricity,
27 telecommunications, transportation, natural gas, buildings or
28 structures, and port facilities, all for the purpose of job creation,
29 job retention, or job expansion.

30 (12) "Rural county" means a county with a population density of
31 (~~fewer~~) less than one hundred persons per square mile or a county
32 smaller than two hundred twenty-five square miles as determined by the
33 office of financial management and published each year by the
34 department for the period July 1st to June 30th.

35 (13) "Rural natural resources impact area" means:

36 (a) A nonmetropolitan county, as defined by the 1990 decennial
37 census, that meets three of the five criteria set forth in subsection
38 (14) of this section;

1 (b) A nonmetropolitan county with a population of less than forty
2 thousand in the 1990 decennial census, that meets two of the five
3 criteria as set forth in subsection (14) of this section; or

4 (c) A nonurbanized area, as defined by the 1990 decennial census,
5 that is located in a metropolitan county that meets three of the five
6 criteria set forth in subsection (14) of this section.

7 (14) For the purposes of designating rural natural resources impact
8 areas, the following criteria shall be considered:

9 (a) A lumber and wood products employment location quotient at or
10 above the state average;

11 (b) A commercial salmon fishing employment location quotient at or
12 above the state average;

13 (c) Projected or actual direct lumber and wood products job losses
14 of one hundred positions or more;

15 (d) Projected or actual direct commercial salmon fishing job losses
16 of one hundred positions or more; and

17 (e) An unemployment rate twenty percent or more above the state
18 average. The counties that meet these criteria shall be determined by
19 the employment security department for the most recent year for which
20 data is available. For the purposes of administration of programs
21 under this chapter, the United States post office five-digit zip code
22 delivery areas will be used to determine residence status for
23 eligibility purposes. For the purpose of this definition, a zip code
24 delivery area of which any part is ten miles or more from an urbanized
25 area is considered nonurbanized. A zip code totally surrounded by zip
26 codes qualifying as nonurbanized under this definition is also
27 considered nonurbanized. The office of financial management shall make
28 available a zip code listing of the areas to all agencies and
29 organizations providing services under this chapter.

30 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.168.020 and 2005 c 136 s 3 are each amended to read
31 as follows:

32 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
33 this section apply throughout this chapter.

34 (1) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
35 economic development.

36 (2) "Director" means the director of community, trade, and economic
37 development.

1 (3) "Distressed area" means: (a) A rural county; (b) a county
2 which has an unemployment rate which is twenty percent above the state
3 average for the immediately previous three years; (c) a county that has
4 a median household income that is less than seventy-five percent of the
5 state median household income for the previous three years; (d) a
6 metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the office of federal
7 statistical policy and standards, United States department of commerce,
8 in which the average level of unemployment for the calendar year
9 immediately preceding the year in which an application is filed under
10 this chapter exceeds the average state unemployment for such calendar
11 year by twenty percent; or (e) an area within a county, which area:
12 (i) Is composed of contiguous census tracts; (ii) has a minimum
13 population of five thousand persons; (iii) has at least seventy percent
14 of its families and unrelated individuals with incomes below eighty
15 percent of the county's median income for families and unrelated
16 individuals; and (iv) has an unemployment rate which is at least forty
17 percent higher than the county's unemployment rate. For purposes of
18 this definition, "families and unrelated individuals" has the same
19 meaning that is ascribed to that term by the federal department of
20 housing and urban development in its regulations authorizing action
21 grants for economic development and neighborhood revitalization
22 projects.

23 (4) "Fund" means the rural Washington loan fund.

24 (5) "Local development organization" means a nonprofit organization
25 which is organized to operate within an area, demonstrates a commitment
26 to a long-standing effort for an economic development program, and
27 makes a demonstrable effort to assist in the employment of unemployed
28 or underemployed residents in an area.

29 (6) "Project" means the establishment of a new or expanded business
30 in an area which when completed will provide employment opportunities.
31 "Project" also means the retention of an existing business in an area
32 which when completed will provide employment opportunities.

33 (7) "Rural county" means a county with a population density of
34 ~~((fewer than))~~ less than one hundred persons per square mile or a
35 county smaller than two hundred twenty-five square miles as determined
36 by the office of financial management and published each year by the
37 department for the period July 1st to June 30th.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.330.086 and 2007 c 249 s 5 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated therefor,
4 contracts with associate development organizations for the provision of
5 services under RCW 43.330.080(1) shall be awarded according to the
6 following annual schedule:

7 (1) For associate development associations serving urban counties,
8 which are counties other than rural counties as defined in RCW
9 (~~43.160.020~~) 82.14.370, a locally matched allocation of up to ninety
10 cents per capita, totaling no more than three hundred thousand dollars
11 per organization; and

12 (2) For associate development associations in rural counties, as
13 defined in RCW (~~43.160.020~~) 82.14.370, a per county base allocation
14 of up to forty thousand dollars and a locally matched allocation of up
15 to ninety cents per capita.

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