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HOUSE BILL 1901

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Johnson, Warnick, Chandler, Ross, Cody, Newhouse, Wood, Moeller, Pedersen, Appleton, Ericksen, Cox, Finn, Liiias, Quall, Dammeier, Haler, Hunt, Angel, Schmick, Armstrong, Jacks, Maxwell, Probst, Morrell, and Hinkle

Read first time 02/02/09. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing additional health sciences and  
2 services authorities in certain areas; and amending RCW 35.104.010 and  
3 35.104.040.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.104.010 and 2007 c 251 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 The health sciences and services program is created to promote  
8 bioscience-based economic development and advance new therapies,  
9 programs, and procedures to combat disease and promote public health.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.104.040 and 2007 c 251 s 4 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (1) The higher education coordinating board may approve  
13 applications submitted by local governments for an area's designation  
14 as a health sciences and services authority under this chapter. The  
15 director shall determine the division to review applications submitted  
16 by local governments under this chapter. The application for  
17 designation shall be in the form and manner and contain such

1 information as the higher education coordinating board may prescribe,  
2 provided the application shall:

3 (a) Contain sufficient information to enable the director to  
4 determine the viability of the proposal;

5 (b) Demonstrate that an ordinance or resolution has been passed by  
6 the legislative authority of a local government that delineates the  
7 boundaries of an area that may be designated an authority;

8 (c) Be submitted on behalf of the local government, or, if that  
9 office does not exist, by the legislative body of the local government;

10 (d) Demonstrate that the public funds directed to programs or  
11 facilities in the authority will leverage private sector resources and  
12 contributions to activities to be performed;

13 (e) Provide a plan or plans for the development of the authority as  
14 an entity to advance as a cluster for health sciences education, health  
15 sciences research, biotechnology development, biotechnology product  
16 commercialization, and/or health care services; and

17 (f) Demonstrate that the state has previously provided funds to  
18 health sciences and services programs or facilities in the applicant  
19 city, town, or county.

20 (2) The director shall determine the division to develop criteria  
21 to evaluate the application. The criteria shall include:

22 (a) The presence of infrastructure capable of spurring development  
23 of the area as a center of health sciences and services;

24 (b) The presence of higher education facilities where undergraduate  
25 or graduate coursework or research is conducted; and

26 (c) The presence of facilities in which health services are  
27 provided.

28 (3) There shall be no more than (~~one authority~~) two authorities  
29 statewide.

30 (4) An authority may only be created in a county with a population  
31 of less than one million persons and is located east of the crest of  
32 the Cascade mountains.

33 (5) The director may reject or approve an application. When  
34 denying an application, the director must specify the application's  
35 deficiencies. The decision regarding such designation as it relates to  
36 a specific local government is final; however, a rejected application  
37 may be resubmitted.

1           (6) Applications are due by December 31, ((2007)) 2009, and must be  
2 processed within sixty days of submission.

3           (7) The director may, at his or her discretion, amend the  
4 boundaries of an authority upon the request of the local government.

5           (8) The higher education coordinating board may adopt any rules  
6 necessary to implement chapter 251, Laws of 2007 within one hundred  
7 twenty days of July 22, 2007.

8           (9) The higher education coordinating board must develop evaluation  
9 and performance measures in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the  
10 programs in the authorities that are funded with public resources. A  
11 report to the legislature shall be due on a biennial basis beginning  
12 December 1, 2009. In addition, the higher education coordinating board  
13 shall develop evaluation criteria that enables the local governments to  
14 measure the effectiveness of the program.

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