
ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6015

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Murray, Delvin, and Marr)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to directing the department of community, trade,
2 and economic development to review commercialization and innovation in
3 the life sciences and technology sectors; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Washington state is fortunate to have a
6 dynamic technology industry sector that benefits from vibrant global
7 demand for its output and that helps drive the state's economy.
8 Washington state is uniquely positioned to shape its future success in
9 innovation in the technology sectors of life sciences and high
10 technology. Nearly every state in the nation is competing to develop
11 a strong innovation economy. Washington has world-class research
12 institutions, entrepreneurial spirit and talent, an actively
13 collaborative community, and an existing foundational sector.

14 (2) To leverage its potential, the state must actively work to
15 create and ensure a supportive environment that enables entrepreneurial
16 people and companies to convert their innovative ideas into marketable
17 new products and services. Providing such an environment would:

18 (a) Solidify Washington state as a global hotbed of knowledge and
19 technology commercialization;

1 (b) Create more highly rewarding and well-paying careers for
2 Washington's citizens;

3 (c) Grow more companies in new and far-reaching markets;

4 (d) Renew traditional industries through value-added technology
5 adaptation; and

6 (e) Generate solid returns for Washington state.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of community, trade, and
8 economic development, in consultation with life sciences trade and
9 technology trade associations, shall review how to best promote and
10 grow innovation in the development and commercialization of proprietary
11 technology in: (a) Life sciences, such as medical devices and
12 biotechnology, including biofuels and alternative clean energy; and (b)
13 information technology, including hardware, software, and internet
14 infrastructure, that address high potential emerging and growing
15 markets.

16 (2) The department of community, trade, and economic development,
17 in consultation with life sciences trade and technology trade
18 associations, shall take the following actions:

19 (a) Investigate targeted investment strategies to advance
20 commercialization and innovation at the preseed and seed stage of
21 companies in Washington state;

22 (b) Monitor and mitigate state policies, bills, and fiscal affairs
23 related to life sciences and technology innovation to ensure
24 competitive growth of the industry; and

25 (c) Work with the Washington economic development commission to
26 align the following with the state's comprehensive economic development
27 plan:

28 (i) Overall strategies and direction of state government activities
29 related to life sciences and technology innovation;

30 (ii) The state's technology-based economic development efforts,
31 making sure the necessary infrastructure is in place to assist
32 companies at every stage of the business life cycle;

33 (iii) Technology transfer and commercialization from the state's
34 public research universities;

35 (iv) Chart the course for strategy implementation, tactics, and
36 setting high expectations for continuous high technology business and
37 employee growth in Washington state;

1 (v) Conduct market analysis and competitive review; and
2 (vi) Collaborate with industry representatives and others to
3 increase the amount of local or regional investment capital available
4 for early stage investments in Washington companies.
5 (3) The department of community, trade, and economic development
6 shall report its findings and recommendations to the governor and
7 legislature by December 1, 2009.

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