

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6356

As of January 22, 2012

Title: An act relating to an interagency work group on establishing a single portal for Washington businesses.

Brief Description: Concerning an interagency work group on establishing a single portal for Washington businesses.

Sponsors: Senators Rolfes, Kastama, Chase, Shin, Tom and Frockt.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Economic Development, Trade & Innovation: 1/23/12.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRADE & INNOVATION

Staff: Jack Brummel (786-7428)

Background: According to a performance review carried out for the State Auditor's Office, dealing with state government can be a daunting experience and many do not know where to start to find the information and services they need. This can result in confusion and obstacles to service and compliance with regulations. The Governor, the State Auditor, and a number of state agencies have recently focused on ways that state government can minimize the impact of state regulations on businesses and streamline access by businesses to needed state services. A number of states have adopted a one-stop approach to simplify the business-government interface.

Summary of Bill: The Department of Revenue is to convene an interagency workgroup to explore the establishment of a single internet portal for Washington businesses. The portal is to:

- allow access to state government records;
- permit the electronic filing of documents and payment of taxes and fees;
- provide information, services, and resources of value to Washington businesses; and
- provide links to agencies that can help in establishing, expanding, operating, or relocating a business.

The workgroup must explore the potential for private sector involvement in setting up the portal. The workgroup must also report to the Legislature and the Governor by December 1,

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2012, with a timeline for action and specificity on the resources needed and the parties responsible for implementation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 17, 2011.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.