
HOUSE BILL 2444

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Lytton, Hansen, and Ryu

Read first time 01/13/12. Referred to Committee on Community & Economic Development & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the Washington center for marine
2 innovation; creating new sections; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state derives
5 significant economic benefits from its marine industry. The
6 legislature also finds that the state's marine industry is recognized
7 worldwide as a model of excellence in ship and boat building,
8 especially for its innovation and quality. The legislature finds that
9 maintaining competitiveness in the marine industry is in the state's
10 best interest and depends on continued investment in research and
11 development to foster continued innovation and improvements in
12 technology. Therefore, the legislature intends to establish the
13 Washington center for marine innovation as a public-private entity to
14 promote research and development efforts to keep and grow the state's
15 competitive advantage in technological innovation and high quality
16 standards of production and repair.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The northwest center of excellence for

1 marine manufacturing and technology shall convene and staff a work
2 group to develop a public-private entity to be known as the Washington
3 center for marine innovation.

4 (2) The work group shall consist of voluntary participants of:

5 (a) Representatives of the marine industry including, but not
6 limited to, ship and boat manufacturing, shipyards and boatyards, ship
7 and boat suppliers, ship and boat repair and maintenance, advanced
8 materials and composite manufacturing, and biofuel and other
9 alternative fuel production;

10 (b) Representatives of institutions of higher education, including
11 research universities, regional universities, The Evergreen State
12 College, and community and technical colleges; and

13 (c) Representatives of public ports, economic development agencies,
14 and workforce development agencies.

15 (3) The work group shall design the center to:

16 (a) Facilitate research and development of innovative technologies
17 and processes for use in marine manufacturing and marine fuel
18 production, such as new composites, advanced materials, and biofuel and
19 other alternative fuels;

20 (b) Develop education and training related to new innovations for
21 the marine industry through conferences, workshops, seminars, and
22 technical reviews;

23 (c) Provide research and other job training opportunities for
24 students in the marine industry;

25 (d) Engage in other activities to ensure that technologies are
26 easily transferred and implemented in the marine industry; and

27 (e) Coordinate the center's activities with other institutions and
28 initiatives in the region.

29 (4) The work group shall provide a report to the appropriate
30 committees of the legislature on the center's design and its
31 recommendations for any legislation needed to fully implement the
32 design, by December 1, 2012.

33 (5) The sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars, or as much
34 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending
35 June 30, 2013, from the recreation resources account to the state board
36 for community and technical colleges to be allocated to the northwest

1 center of excellence for marine manufacturing and technology for the
2 purposes of this act.

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