SENATE BILL 6547
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State of Washington   **62nd Legislature**   **2012 Regular Session**

By Senators Pridemore and Shin; by request of Washington State Department of Commerce

Read first time 01/30/12.   Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation.

1   AN ACT Relating to the microenterprise development program; and
2 amending RCW 43.330.290.

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

4   **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.330.290 and 2009 c 565 s 15 are each amended to
5 read as follows:
6   The microenterprise development program is established in the
7 department of commerce. In implementing the program, the department:
8   (1) Shall ((provide organizational support to a statewide
9 microenterprise association and shall)) contract with ((the)) a
10 statewide microenterprise association for the delivery of services and
11 distribution of grants;
12   (a) The association shall serve as the department's agent in
13 carrying out the purpose and service delivery requirements of this
14 section;
15   (b) The association's contract with the department shall specify
16 that in administering the funds provided for under subsection (3) of
17 this section, the association may use no greater than ten percent of
18 the funds to cover administrative expenses;

1   (2) Shall provide funds for capacity building for the statewide
2   microenterprise   association   and   microenterprise   development
3   organizations throughout the state;
4   (3)   Shall   provide   grants   to   microenterprise   development
5   organizations for the delivery of training and technical assistance
6   services;
7   (4) Shall identify and facilitate the availability of state,
8   federal, and private sources of funds which may enhance microenterprise
9   development in the state;
10   (5) Shall develop with the statewide microenterprise association
11   criteria for the distribution of grants to microenterprise development
12   organizations. Such criteria may include:
13   (a) The geographic representation of all regions of the state,
14   including both urban and rural communities;
15   (b) The ability of the microenterprise development organization to
16   provide business development services in low-income communities;
17   (c) The scope of services offered by a microenterprise development
18   organization and their efficiency in delivery of such services;
19   (d) The ability of the microenterprise development organization to
20   monitor the progress of its customers and identify technical and
21   financial assistance needs;
22   (e) The ability of the microenterprise development organization to
23   work with other organizations, public entities, and financial
24   institutions to meet the technical and financial assistance needs of
25   its customers;
26   (f) The sufficiency of operating funds for the microenterprise
27   development organization; and
28   (g) Such other criteria as agreed by the department and the
29   association;
30   (6) Shall require the statewide microenterprise association and any
31   microenterprise development organization receiving funds through the
32   microenterprise development program to raise and contribute to the
33   effort funded by the microenterprise development program an amount
34   equal to twenty-five percent of the microenterprise development program
35   funds received. Such matching funds may come from private foundations,
36   federal or local sources, financial institutions, or any other source
37   other than funds appropriated from the legislature;

1   (7) Shall require under its contract with the statewide
2 microenterprise association an annual accounting of program outcomes,
3 including job creation, access to capital, leveraging of nonstate
4 funds, and other outcome measures specified by the department. By
5 January 1, 2012, the joint legislative audit and review committee shall
6 use these outcome data and other relevant information to evaluate the
7 program's effectiveness; and
8   (8) May adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

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