

ESSB 5843 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on General Government & Information Technology

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 4/13/2015

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 79A.05.351 and 2007 c 176 s 2 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The outdoor education and recreation grant program is hereby  
6 created, subject to the availability of funds in the outdoor  
7 education and recreation account. The commission shall establish and  
8 implement the program by rule to provide opportunities for public  
9 agencies, private nonprofit organizations, formal school programs,  
10 nonformal after-school programs, and community-based programs to  
11 receive grants from the account. Programs that provide outdoor  
12 education opportunities to schools shall be fully aligned with the  
13 state's essential academic learning requirements.

14 (2) The program shall be phased in beginning with the schools and  
15 students with the greatest needs in suburban, rural, and urban areas  
16 of the state. The program shall focus on students who qualify for  
17 free and reduced-price lunch, who are most likely to fail  
18 academically, or who have the greatest potential to drop out of  
19 school.

20 (3) The director shall set priorities and develop criteria for  
21 the awarding of grants to outdoor environmental, ecological,  
22 agricultural, or other natural resource-based education and  
23 recreation programs considering at least the following:

24 (a) Programs that contribute to the reduction of academic failure  
25 and dropout rates;

26 (b) Programs that make use of research-based, effective  
27 environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural resource-  
28 based education curriculum;

29 (c) Programs that contribute to healthy life styles through  
30 outdoor recreation and sound nutrition;

31 (d) Various Washington state parks as venues and use of the  
32 commission's personnel as a resource;

1 (e) Programs that maximize the number of participants that can be  
2 served;

3 (f) Programs that will commit matching and in-kind resources;

4 (g) Programs that create partnerships with public and private  
5 entities;

6 (h) Programs that provide students with opportunities to directly  
7 experience and understand nature and the natural world; (~~and~~)

8 (i) Programs that include ongoing program evaluation, assessment,  
9 and reporting of their effectiveness; and

10 (j) Programs that utilize veterans for at least fifty percent of  
11 program implementation or administration.

12 (4) The director shall create an advisory committee to assist and  
13 advise the commission in the development and administration of the  
14 outdoor education and recreation program. The director should solicit  
15 representation on the committee from the office of the superintendent  
16 of public instruction, the department of fish and wildlife, the  
17 business community, outdoor organizations with an interest in  
18 education, and any others the commission deems sufficient to ensure a  
19 cross section of stakeholders. When the director creates such an  
20 advisory committee, its members shall be reimbursed from the outdoor  
21 education and recreation program account for travel expenses as  
22 provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

23 (5) The outdoor education and recreation program account is  
24 created in the custody of the state treasurer. Funds deposited in the  
25 outdoor education and recreation program account shall be transferred  
26 only to the commission to be used solely for the commission's outdoor  
27 education and recreation program purposes identified in this section  
28 including the administration of the program. The director may accept  
29 gifts, grants, donations, or moneys from any source for deposit in  
30 the outdoor education and recreation program account. Any public  
31 agency in this state may develop and implement outdoor education and  
32 recreation programs. The director may make grants to public agencies  
33 and contract with any public or private agency or person to develop  
34 and implement outdoor education and recreation programs. The outdoor  
35 education and recreation program account is subject to allotment  
36 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not  
37 required for expenditures.

38 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.06  
39 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
2 specific purpose, the governor must maintain a senior policy advisor  
3 to the governor to serve as a state lead on economic development  
4 issues relating to the outdoor recreation sector of the state's  
5 economy. The advisor must focus on promoting, increasing  
6 participation in, and increasing opportunities for outdoor recreation  
7 in Washington, with a particular focus on achieving economic  
8 development and job growth through outdoor recreation.

9 (2) The success of the advisor must be based on measurable  
10 results relating to economic development strategies that more  
11 deliberately grow employment and outdoor recreation businesses,  
12 including:

13 (a) Strategies for increasing the number of new jobs directly or  
14 indirectly related to outdoor recreation, with a short-term goal of  
15 increasing employment in the sector by ten percent above the one  
16 hundred ninety-nine thousand jobs estimated to be connected to  
17 outdoor recreation as of 2015; and

18 (b) Strategies for increasing the twenty-one billion dollars of  
19 consumer spending in Washington, and the four and one-half billion  
20 dollars of spending from out-of-state visitors, estimated to be  
21 connected to outdoor recreation as of 2015."

22 Correct the title.

--- END ---