

ESSB 5843 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on General Government & Information Technology

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 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 43.330
39 RCW to read as follows:

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

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

EFFECT: Changes the nature of the state's outdoor recreation lead from a senior policy advisor to the governor to a position at the department of commerce, requires the success of the position to be based on measureable results, and removes the requirement of senatorial confirmation for the position.

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