
HOUSE BILL 1670

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Walkinshaw, Schmick, Blake, Fagan, Pettigrew, Lytton, and Tharinger

Read first time 01/26/15. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to spurring agricultural innovations; and
2 amending RCW 43.350.005, 43.350.010, and 43.350.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.350.005 and 2005 c 424 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature declares that promoting the health of state
7 residents is a fundamental purpose of state government. The
8 legislature declares it to be a clear public purpose and governmental
9 function to promote life sciences research to foster a preventive and
10 predictive vision of the next generation of health-related
11 innovations, to enhance the competitive position of Washington
12 ((state)) in this vital sector of the economy, and to improve the
13 quality and delivery of health care for the people of Washington.

14 (2) The legislature also declares that a mission to promote life
15 sciences to spur innovation and improve the quality of life for
16 Washingtonians should encompass the entirety of the life sciences
17 discipline and also include innovations related to agricultural and
18 forestry crop production and animal sciences.

19 (3) The legislature finds that public support for and promotion
20 of life sciences research will benefit the state and its residents
21 through improved health status and health outcomes, economic

1 development, and contributions to scientific knowledge, and such
2 research will lead to breakthroughs and improvements that might not
3 otherwise be discovered due to lack of existing market incentives,
4 especially in the area of regenerative medicine and agricultural
5 production.

6 (4) The legislature finds that public support for and promotion
7 of life sciences research has the potential to provide cures or new
8 treatments for many debilitating diseases that cost the state
9 millions of dollars each year.

10 (5) It is appropriate and consistent with the intent of the
11 master settlement agreement between the state and tobacco product
12 manufacturers to invest a portion of the revenues derived therefrom
13 by the state in life sciences research, to leverage the revenues with
14 other funds, and to encourage cooperation and innovation among public
15 and private institutions involved in life sciences research.

16 (6) The purpose of this chapter is to establish a life sciences
17 discovery fund authority, to grant that authority the power to
18 contract with the state to receive revenues under the master
19 settlement agreement, and to contract with other entities to receive
20 other funds, and to disburse those funds consistent with the purpose
21 of this chapter.

22 (7) The life sciences discovery fund is intended to promote the
23 best available research in life sciences disciplines through diverse
24 Washington institutions and to build upon existing strengths in the
25 area of biosciences and biomanufacturing in order to spread the
26 economic benefits across the state. The life sciences discovery fund
27 is also intended to foster improved health care outcomes and improved
28 agricultural production research across this state and the world.

29 (8) The research investments of the life sciences discovery fund
30 are intended to further the goals of the "Bio 21" report and to
31 support future statewide, comprehensive strategies to lead the nation
32 in life sciences-related research and employment.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.350.010 and 2005 c 424 s 2 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
36 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

37 (1) "Authority" means the life sciences discovery fund authority
38 created in this chapter.

1 (2) "Board" means the governing board of trustees of the
2 authority.

3 (3) "Contribution agreement" means any agreement authorized under
4 this chapter in which a private entity or a public entity other than
5 the state agrees to provide to the authority contributions for the
6 purpose of promoting life sciences research.

7 (4) "Life sciences research" means advanced and applied research
8 and development intended to improve human health, including
9 scientific study of the developing brain and human learning and
10 development, and other areas of scientific research and development
11 vital to the state's economy, such as agricultural crop and animal
12 sciences research.

13 (5) "Master settlement agreement" means the national master
14 settlement agreement and related documents entered into on November
15 23, 1998, by the state and the four principal United States tobacco
16 product manufacturers, as amended and supplemented, for the
17 settlement of litigation brought by the state against the tobacco
18 product manufacturers.

19 (6) "Public employee" means any person employed by the state of
20 Washington or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

21 (7) "Public facilities" means any public institution, public
22 facility, public equipment, or any physical asset owned, leased, or
23 controlled by the state of Washington or any agency or political
24 subdivision thereof.

25 (8) "Public funds" means any funds received or controlled by the
26 state of Washington or any agency or political subdivision thereof,
27 including, but not limited to, funds derived from federal, state, or
28 local taxes, gifts or grants from any source, public or private,
29 federal grants or payments, or intergovernmental transfers.

30 (9) "State agreement" means the agreement authorized under this
31 chapter in which the state provides to the authority the strategic
32 contribution payments required to be made by tobacco product
33 manufacturers to the state and the state's rights to receive such
34 payments, pursuant to the master settlement agreement, for the
35 purpose of promoting life sciences research.

36 (10) "Strategic contribution payments" means the payments
37 designated as such under the master settlement agreement, which will
38 be made to the state in the years 2008 through 2017.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.350.030 and 2005 c 424 s 4 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 In addition to other powers and duties prescribed in this
4 chapter, the authority is empowered to:

5 (1) Use public moneys in the life sciences discovery fund,
6 leveraging those moneys with amounts received from other public and
7 private sources in accordance with contribution agreements, to
8 promote life sciences research;

9 (2) Solicit and receive gifts, grants, and bequests, and enter
10 into contribution agreements with private entities and public
11 entities other than the state to receive moneys in consideration of
12 the authority's promise to leverage those moneys with amounts
13 received through appropriations from the legislature and
14 contributions from other public entities and private entities, in
15 order to use those moneys to promote life sciences research. Nonstate
16 moneys received by the authority for this purpose shall be deposited
17 in the life sciences discovery fund created in RCW 43.350.070;

18 (3) Hold funds received by the authority in trust for their use
19 pursuant to this chapter to promote life sciences research;

20 (4) Manage its funds, obligations, and investments as necessary
21 and as consistent with its purpose including the segregation of
22 revenues into separate funds and accounts;

23 (5) Make grants to entities pursuant to contract for the
24 promotion of life sciences research to be conducted in the state.
25 Grant agreements shall specify deliverables to be provided by the
26 recipient pursuant to the grant. The authority shall solicit requests
27 for funding and evaluate the requests by reference to factors such
28 as: (a) The quality of the proposed research; (b) its potential to
29 improve health outcomes, with particular attention to the likelihood
30 that it will also lower health care costs, substitute for a more
31 costly diagnostic or treatment modality, or offer a breakthrough
32 treatment for a particular disease or condition; (c) its potential
33 for leveraging additional funding; (d) its potential to provide
34 improvements in agricultural production and animal sciences, health
35 care benefits, or benefits to human learning and development; (e) its
36 potential to stimulate the health care delivery, biomedical
37 manufacturing, and life sciences related employment in the state; (f)
38 the geographic diversity of the grantees within Washington; (g)
39 evidence of potential royalty income and contractual means to

1 recapture such income for purposes of this chapter; and (h) evidence
2 of public and private collaboration;

3 (6) Create one or more advisory boards composed of scientists,
4 industrialists, and others familiar with life sciences research; and

5 (7) Adopt policies and procedures to facilitate the orderly
6 process of grant application, review, and reward.

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