
HOUSE BILL 2866

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Johnson, Tarleton, Chandler, Moscoso, Buys, Van Werven, Manweller, Haler, and Stanford

Read first time 01/25/16. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment of a joint select committee
2 to investigate the creation of a Washington state council for the
3 Pacific Northwest economic region; creating a new section; and
4 providing an expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) A legislative joint select
7 committee on the creation of a Washington state council for the
8 Pacific Northwest economic region is established, with members as
9 provided in this subsection.

10 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint two members from
11 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

12 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
13 two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
14 representatives.

15 (b) The committee shall choose its chair from among its
16 membership.

17 (2) The joint select committee shall review the costs and
18 benefits of creating a Washington state council for the Pacific
19 Northwest economic region and investigate possible avenues to expand
20 cross-border partnership on substantive issues such as:

21 (a) Sewage treatment and disposal by Victoria, British Columbia;

- 1 (b) Customs preclearance for cruise ships, railroads, and
2 frequent travelers;
- 3 (c) Workforce and professional license reciprocity;
- 4 (d) Invasive species;
- 5 (e) Mining;
- 6 (f) International trade agreements, harmonization, and good
7 neighbor agreements;
- 8 (g) Expanding tourism;
- 9 (h) Energy and environmental challenges;
- 10 (i) Regional carbon and low carbon economy matters;
- 11 (j) The Columbia river treaty;
- 12 (k) Railroads;
- 13 (l) The establishment of regular joint cabinet meetings between
14 regional entities; and
- 15 (m) Relations between states, tribes, and provinces.
- 16 (3) The joint select committee shall meet:
- 17 (a) Either three or four times in 2016, with each meeting in one
18 of the following areas within Washington state and no more than one
19 meeting in each area: Vancouver; Spokane; the Tri-Cities; and
20 Bellingham or Seattle;
- 21 (b) Once with counterparts in British Columbia; and
- 22 (c) Once together with Pacific Northwest economic region
23 colleagues from Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Montana.
- 24 (4) The joint select committee shall create and consult an
25 advisory committee of stakeholders to assist in the development of
26 recommendations under this section. Members of such advisory
27 committee are appointed by the chair of the joint select committee.
- 28 (5) Staff support for the joint select committee must be provided
29 by the senate committee services and the house of representatives
30 office of program research.
- 31 (6) Legislative members of the joint select committee are
32 reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.
33 Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel
34 expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on behalf
35 of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization. Any
36 reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter
37 43.03 RCW.
- 38 (7) The expenses of the joint select committee must be paid
39 jointly by the senate and the house of representatives. Committee
40 expenditures are subject to approval by the senate facilities and

1 operations committee and the house of representatives executive rules
2 committee, or their successor committees.

3 (8) The joint select committee shall report its findings and
4 recommendations to the appropriate committees of the legislature by
5 December 31, 2016.

6 (9) This section expires December 31, 2016.

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