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SENATE BILL 6033

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Liiias, and Benton

Read first time 02/18/15. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a task force to examine state and  
2 local regulations that affect small businesses; creating a new  
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) A legislative task force on state  
6 and local regulations that affect small businesses with fifty or  
7 fewer employees is established, with four members appointed as  
8 follows:

9 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from  
10 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate; and

11 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint  
12 one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of  
13 representatives.

14 (b) The task force shall choose a chair or cochairs, at its  
15 discretion, from among its legislative membership at its initial  
16 meeting. The initial meeting must be called by agreement of a  
17 majority of the appointed members.

18 (2) The task force must:

19 (a) Identify the various state and local regulatory schemes that  
20 affect small businesses;

1 (b) Analyze the process and frequency by which those regulatory  
2 agencies receive input from small businesses, both at the time of and  
3 after rule adoption;

4 (c) Analyze existing regulatory schemes that affect small  
5 businesses for opportunities for regulatory streamlining or permit  
6 consolidation that will increase efficiencies and decrease costs for  
7 small businesses and state and local government while at the same  
8 time maintaining the integrity of the regulatory scheme;

9 (d) Analyze relevant state and local rules and policies affecting  
10 small businesses for ways to provide small businesses with easier  
11 access to rules and policies, improve awareness, improve readability  
12 and understanding, and help reduce compliance costs; and

13 (e) Provide any recommendations identified by the task force that  
14 involve statutory changes, funding recommendations, or administrative  
15 action to the appropriate committees of the senate and house of  
16 representatives. If statutory changes are recommended, the task force  
17 must provide the recommendations in the form of draft legislation.  
18 Task force recommendations require the approval of a majority of the  
19 appointed members.

20 (3) The task force must hold at least two meetings, with at least  
21 one meeting east of the crest of the Cascade mountains and at least  
22 one meeting west of the crest of the Cascade mountains. In addition  
23 to hearing from invited presenters and issue area experts, the task  
24 force must ensure that it provides ample opportunity for input from:  
25 Interested stakeholders, including small businesses from a variety of  
26 industries; statewide organizations representing business and labor  
27 interests; relevant state agencies; the governor's office for  
28 regulatory innovation and assistance; and members of the public.

29 (4) Staff support for the task force must be provided by senate  
30 committee services and the house of representatives office of program  
31 research. The governor's office for regulatory innovation and  
32 assistance, and other relevant state agencies identified by the task  
33 force during the course of its work, must cooperate with the task  
34 force and provide information and assistance at the request of the  
35 task force.

36 (5) Legislative members of the task force must be reimbursed for  
37 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

38 (6) Task force expenditures are subject to approval by the senate  
39 facilities and operations committee and the house of representatives  
40 executive rules committee, or their successor committees.

1           (7) By November 1, 2015, and consistent with RCW 43.01.036, the  
2 task force must provide recommendations as described under subsection  
3 (2) of this section.

4           (8) This section expires June 30, 2016.

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