(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Creates, within the department of commerce, the Washington state space exploration center of excellence for the following purposes: (1) Supporting joint industry-university research in developing and supporting new and existing technologies that can be used by space exploration firms;

- (2) Assisting the University of Washington, Washington State University, and other participating institutions in recruiting future space exploration sector leaders;
- (3) Working directly with existing small, medium, and large-sized space firms and space industry associations;
- (4) Providing a centralized Washington space exploration industry hub;
- (5) Promoting and fostering local space exploration industry efforts; and
- (6) Coordinating efforts with other governmental entities, nongovernmental organizations, and academics to solicit significant industry conferences and meetings to Washington.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review committee to conduct an evaluation of the performance of the center.

Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.