
HOUSE BILL 1910

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Tarleton and Pollet

Read first time 02/02/17. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to defining economic impacts of certain sectors
2 of Washington state; creating new sections; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
6 contribute to the economic vitality and resilience of Washington by
7 supporting diverse economic sectors. As the state builds an economic
8 resilience strategy by 2021, as called for in the recommendations of
9 the joint legislative task force on the economic resilience of
10 maritime and manufacturing in Washington, the legislature intends to
11 assess economic impacts of those sectors that provide resilience to
12 local communities throughout the state.

13 Therefore, the legislature requires an economic impact study on
14 the contributions of two-year and four-year public institutions of
15 higher education to evaluate the economic impact of state investment
16 in areas including jobs, public facilities, critical infrastructure,
17 and financial aid to students in the local economy where these
18 educational institutions are located. The success of these critical
19 institutions is necessary for the economic development and resilience
20 of these local communities and the state.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) Subject to available funds
2 appropriated specifically for the purpose in this section, the
3 department of commerce must contract for a study on the economic
4 impact of the contributions of public institutions of higher
5 education, two and four-year, in Washington, to assist the
6 legislature in supporting and making strategic investments towards
7 sustaining a diversified economy.

8 (b) The study must be completed by an entity that has
9 demonstrated an ability to complete economic impact studies on public
10 institutions of higher education. The contracted entity must consult
11 with local governments and community leaders representing diversity
12 in geography, size, and population to complete the study. The study
13 must include, but is not limited to, an assessment of statewide and
14 local impacts of public institutions of higher education by
15 evaluating:

16 (i) Income and jobs created, including direct, indirect, and
17 induced jobs related to public employment, higher education graduate
18 employment, and higher education students part-time and full-time
19 employment, in the local communities where institutions of higher
20 education are located;

21 (ii) Public facilities;

22 (iii) Critical infrastructure;

23 (iv) Student financial aid, including need-based grants;

24 (v) Community revitalization;

25 (vi) Local and state tax revenues;

26 (vii) Consumer spending; and

27 (viii) Research and development.

28 (2) The study must also identify local community efforts to
29 collaborate with public institutions of higher education.

30 (3) The department of commerce must submit to the governor and
31 the appropriate committees of the legislature a final study with
32 findings and recommendations by October 1, 2018, in compliance with
33 RCW 43.01.036.

34 (4) This section expires December 31, 2018.

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