
Capital Budget Committee

SB 5782

Brief Description: Concerning the defense community compatibility account.

Sponsors: Senators Conway, Hunt and Randall.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Changes the deadline for submission of the Defense Community Compatibility Account (DCCA) report to November 1 of each even-numbered year.
- Authorizes the Department of Commerce to provide grants using DCCA funds to federally recognized Indian tribes.
- Limits eligible uses of DCCA funds to capital projects only.

Hearing Date: 2/24/22

Staff: Richelle Geiger (786-7139).

Background:

Defense Community Compatibility Account.

In 2019, the Legislature created the Defense Community Compatibility Account (DCCA). Subject to the availability of funding, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) may award grants to local governments for projects to address incompatible development connected to Washington State military installations. To qualify for a grant, the applicant must have federal matching funds to fund a portion of the project. Eligible projects include:

- acquisition of real property or real property interests to eliminate an existing incompatible use;
- projects to jointly assist in the recovery or protection of endangered species dependent on military installation property for habitat;

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- projects or programs to increase the availability of housing affordable to enlisted military personnel and nonmilitary residents in the local community;
- projects to retrofit existing uses to increase their compatibility with existing or future military operations;
- projects to enable local communities heavily dependent on a nearby military installation to diversify the local economy so as to reduce the economic dependence on the military base;
- projects that aid communities in replacing jobs lost in the event of a reduction of the military presence; and
- projects that improve or enhance aspects of the local economy, environment, or quality of life impacted by the presence of military activities.

Commerce must produce a report with a prioritized list of projects to address incompatible developments near military installations (DCCA report) by January 1, 2020, and every two years thereafter. Projects must be prioritized with consideration for:

- recommendations of the Department of Defense and federally initiated land use processes; and
- whether a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces has identified the project as increasing the viability of military installations.

Summary of Bill:

The deadline for submitting the DCCA report is moved to November 1 of each even-numbered year. Federally recognized Indian tribes are eligible for grants from the DCCA. Grant recipients must demonstrate the federal funding source for which the applicant intends to apply, replacing the requirement that federal matching funds must be committed to the project. Only capital projects are eligible for DCCA funding.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.