
SENATE BILL 6075

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators Thorsness, Rasmussen, McCaslin, Owen, Metcalf, Nelson, Oke, Stratton, Cantu, L. Smith, Amondson, Barr, Anderson, Craswell and Erwin

Read first time 01/15/92. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to state government employment; adding a new
2 section to chapter 41.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the rate of
5 growth in the number of persons employed by state government has been
6 far exceeding the growth rate in the state's population. This trend
7 has the effect of increasing the burden placed on the citizens of the
8 state in terms of taxation necessary to support that level of
9 employment, as well as fostering an excessively regulatory environment
10 that hampers the economic growth and well-being of the state. For
11 these reasons, it is necessary to establish controls on the growth of
12 state government employment.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1992, and each fiscal
4 year thereafter, the number of state employees shall not increase at an
5 annual rate that exceeds the annual rate of growth in the state's
6 population during the previous fiscal year, as estimated by the United
7 States bureau of the census.

8 ((2) The limitation on employment established under subsection (1)
9 of this section shall be calculated, administered, and enforced
10 separately for each of the three branches of state government in the
11 following manner:

12 (a) For all agencies under the executive branch of state
13 government, the limitation shall be calculated, administered, and
14 enforced by the governor, with the assistance of the office of
15 financial management, the department of personnel, and the higher
16 education personnel board.

17 (b) For all agencies under the legislative branch, the limitation
18 shall be calculated, administered, and enforced jointly by the chief
19 clerk of the house of representatives and the secretary of the senate.

20 (c) For all agencies of the judicial branch, the limitation shall
21 be calculated, administered, and enforced by the chief justice of the
22 supreme court.

23 (3) No agency of state government may employ or retain any person
24 if, by such action, the employment limitations established under this
25 section are exceeded.

26 (4) "Number of state employees," as used in this section, means the
27 number of persons employed full time by the state, the full-time
28 equivalent number of persons employed on a part-time basis, and the
29 full-time equivalent number of persons retained for personal services
30 by the state on a contractual basis.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its
2 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
3 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
4 persons or circumstances is not affected.