

SB 5330 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade

NOT CONSIDERED 03/02/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that state-supported
4 economic development efforts, including work force training, technology
5 transfer, and industrial modernization, can make a significant
6 difference in the health and diversification of the state's economy.
7 There are numerous federal and private economic development grant
8 programs and research projects designed to increase the competitiveness
9 of American firms and local work forces, for which state agencies and
10 local consortiums are eligible to apply. The legislature further
11 finds that state agencies in Washington have not maximized the
12 opportunities available to receive federal and private funds to augment
13 state economic development efforts.

14 The legislature declares that it is the state's policy to maximize
15 the use of federal and private funds for economic development purposes
16 and to devote state resources to leverage federal and private dollars
17 to supplement state economic development efforts. In furtherance of
18 this policy, it is the purpose of section 2 of this act to authorize
19 and fund a technical assistance and grant writing program within the
20 department of community, trade, and economic development.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
22 to read as follows:

23 (1) The economic development grants program is created in the
24 department to be staffed by at least one grant writer either on
25 contract or on staff. Program staff shall:

26 (a) Regularly review the federal register for opportunities to
27 apply for grants, research projects, and demonstration projects;

28 (b) Stay abreast of grant opportunities with private foundations
29 and businesses;

1 (c) Correspond and meet with federal officials, including those in
2 the small business administration, the department of labor, the
3 department of commerce, and the department of health and human
4 services, as well as foundation and business officials, on the
5 prospects for obtaining federal and private funds for economic
6 development purposes in Washington state;

7 (d) Apprise the agency directors and division heads of the
8 department of community, trade, and economic development, the
9 employment security department, the department of agriculture, the
10 Washington technology center, the Washington manufacturing service, and
11 other state agencies as appropriate, of the opportunities for federal
12 and private grant dollars for economic development projects;

13 (e) Assist state agencies in their grant-seeking efforts for
14 economic development projects. Grant writing for and assistance in
15 grant writing for projects sponsored or cosponsored by state agencies
16 shall be the highest priority of the program's work;

17 (f) Write grant requests to further the state's economic
18 development efforts;

19 (g) Facilitate joint efforts between agencies and between local
20 consortiums and state agencies that will increase the likelihood of
21 success in grant seeking; and

22 (h) Garner the political support necessary from federal and state
23 elected and appointed officials for success in grant seeking.

24 (2) The department shall submit to the appropriate committees of
25 the legislature an annual list of grant applications submitted, grant
26 awards received, and the total amount of grant funds received during
27 the year. The list shall be due by December 1st of each year."

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