

---

SENATE BILL 5387

---

State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Senators Kastama, Kilmer, Kauffman and Shin

Read first time 01/18/2007.      Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Management.

1            AN ACT Relating to promoting economic development through  
2 commercialization of technologies; amending RCW 28B.20.297; and making  
3 appropriations.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.20.297 and 2005 c 357 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            (1) The legislature finds that small technology-based firms are the  
8 source of approximately one-half of the economy's major innovations  
9 ~~((and that)).~~ The legislature further finds that economic development  
10 in the state is increasingly driven by innovative firms and that it is  
11 in the interest of the state to:

12            (a) Increase participation by Washington state small businesses in  
13 the federal small business innovation research program by assisting  
14 them in becoming small business innovation research program grant  
15 recipients((-

16            ~~The legislature further finds that many small business innovators~~  
17 ~~lack the grant writing skills necessary to prepare a successful small~~  
18 ~~business innovation research program proposal, and the federal program~~  
19 ~~that funded grant writing assistance has stopped operations.—~~ Nearly

1 ~~fifty percent of small businesses trained under the federal program won~~  
2 ~~grants compared to less than ten percent of those that did not receive~~  
3 ~~training));~~

4 (b) Increase the number of innovative firms that understand and  
5 engage in the technology commercialization process by providing  
6 information resources and technical assistance in accessing new  
7 technologies; and

8 (c) Increase funding for product development and production by  
9 providing information on available finance options and facilitating the  
10 matching of investors with innovative entrepreneurs.

11 (2) As used in this section:

12 (a) "Small business innovation research program" means the program,  
13 enacted pursuant to the small business innovation development act of  
14 1982, P.L. 97-219, that provided funds to small businesses to conduct  
15 innovative research having commercial application.

16 (b) "Small business" means a corporation, partnership, sole  
17 proprietorship, or individual, operating a business for profit, with  
18 two hundred fifty employees or fewer, including employees employed in  
19 a subsidiary or affiliated corporation, that otherwise meets the  
20 requirements of the federal small business innovation research program.

21 (3) The Washington technology center shall:

22 (a) Establish a small business innovation research assistance  
23 program, including a proposal review process, to train and assist  
24 Washington small businesses to win phase I small business innovation  
25 research program awards. ((+a+)) In operating the program the  
26 Washington technology center shall give priority to first-time small  
27 business innovation research program applicants, new businesses, and  
28 firms with fewer than ten employees((-));

29 (b) In conjunction with public universities and colleges and  
30 private and federal research laboratories in the state: (i) Develop  
31 and disseminate a guide to the technology commercialization process in  
32 general and the particular commercialization assistance available from  
33 research and academic institutions in the state; (ii) develop,  
34 maintain, and provide access to a database of technologies and  
35 inventions developed in the state available for commercialization and  
36 licensing; and (iii) offer training on the provision of  
37 commercialization assistance to technical assistance providers at the

1 state's small business development centers, economic development  
2 councils, chambers of commerce, industry associations, the Washington  
3 manufacturing service, and private consulting firms;

4 (c) Develop a funding resource guide, offer workshops on how to  
5 access financing for commercializing new technologies, provide  
6 opportunities for novice investors to learn about investing in  
7 technology-based companies, host events to connect entrepreneurs and  
8 investors, and maintain an interactive web site accessible by both  
9 entrepreneurs and investors; and

10 (d) Report on the impact of commercialization activities at  
11 Washington research institutions on an annual basis.

12 (4) The Washington technology center may charge a fee for ((this  
13 service)) its services.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) The sum of three hundred thousand  
15 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
16 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the  
17 Washington technology center for the purposes of this act.

18 (2) The sum of three hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof  
19 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June  
20 30, 2009, from the general fund to the Washington technology center for  
21 the purposes of this act.

--- END ---