
SENATE BILL 5921

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Rockefeller, Pridemore, Ranker, Kline, and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 02/06/09. Referred to Committee on Environment, Water & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a clean energy collaborative; amending
2 RCW 28B.20.296 and 28B.20.289; adding new sections to chapter 28B.20
3 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that strengthening and
6 developing opportunities for innovation and technological research are
7 central to strategically positioning Washington in the global and
8 regional economy. Collaborative efforts between institutions of higher
9 education, national laboratories, and the business sector are necessary
10 to develop entrepreneurial and workforce talent and to identify
11 successful partnerships that are essential for Washington to
12 participate in the global and regional markets. Furthermore, the
13 legislature finds that a clean energy strategy will orchestrate
14 collaborative efforts needed to foster statewide economic growth and
15 create living wage jobs, as well as promote, enhance, and secure
16 Washington's position in the regional and global economy. In addition,
17 a clean energy strategy will reduce the state's reliance on foreign
18 energy sources and fossil fuels and enable Washington to become energy
19 self-sufficient. To that end, the legislature endorses the "Carbon-

1 Free Prosperity 2025 Report" and its ten-point action plan to help
2 guide a clean energy collaborative and the goal of state energy self-
3 sufficiency.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.20.296 and 2004 c 151 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 ((1)) The Washington technology center(~~(, through its northwest~~
7 ~~energy technology collaborative,))~~ shall contract with an advocacy
8 organization that has a focus on emerging clean energy, green
9 technology, and environmental technologies and that collaborates with
10 business and economic development interests, to create a clean energy
11 collaborative. The clean energy collaborative shall provide a forum
12 for public and private ((collaborative)) cooperative initiatives to
13 promote ((renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors)) and
14 strengthen clean energy clusters and living wage jobs in Washington
15 state and the Pacific Northwest. ((The center shall seek to integrate
16 the initiatives of the northwest energy technology collaborative into
17 existing state programs and initiatives, including grant programs
18 administered by the center, and energy efficiency business development
19 projects and energy assistance programs of the department of community,
20 trade, and economic development.

21 ~~(2) The center, through its northwest energy technology~~
22 ~~collaborative, shall develop and implement a strategic plan for public~~
23 ~~and private collaboration in renewable energy and energy efficiency~~
24 ~~business development. The center, together with the department, shall~~
25 ~~prepare an initial draft of a statewide strategic plan and circulate it~~
26 ~~widely among businesses and individuals in these sectors for review and~~
27 ~~comment. The center shall also organize a summit of public and private~~
28 ~~sector interests to further developments of the proposed strategic~~
29 ~~plan. The plan shall address, among other things, the role that public~~
30 ~~sector policies, programs, and expenditures may play in promoting these~~
31 ~~economic sectors, including subjects such as workforce development,~~
32 ~~education, tax incentives, economic development assistance, public~~
33 ~~sector energy purchases, public sector construction standards,~~
34 ~~transportation, and land use regulation and zoning. The strategic plan~~
35 ~~shall include recommendations for legislative and administrative policy~~
36 ~~changes and for legislative appropriations. The plan shall also~~
37 ~~recommend proposals for capital and operating investments in public~~

1 higher education facilities, proposals for creating and strengthening
2 public and private partnerships, and proposals for federal financial
3 assistance and expenditures for research and development programs in
4 Washington state. The finalized strategic plan shall be provided to
5 the governor and to the appropriate committees of the senate and house
6 of representatives by January 1, 2005.

7 ~~(3) The strategic plan required by subsection (2) of this section~~
8 ~~may be incorporated into the center's five year strategic plan required~~
9 ~~by RCW 28B.20.289(3)(f).)~~

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.20 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 (1) The clean energy collaborative established in RCW 28B.20.296
13 shall: (a) Identify the various components of the state's clean energy
14 clusters and develop an inventory of the most promising clean energy
15 technologies, including opportunities for strengthening solar
16 photovoltaic manufacturing, green building design services, wind power
17 development, sustainable bioenergy, and smart grid technologies; and
18 (b) develop a strategy to strengthen and expand the clean energy
19 clusters within the region. The strategy must address research and
20 development needs, commercialization of clean energy applications,
21 opportunities for fledgling businesses, and meeting the demands of
22 consumers.

23 (2) In developing its strategy, the clean energy collaborative
24 shall consider methods to:

25 (a) Stimulate seed and start-up capital investment and
26 entrepreneurial capacity that will promote economic growth in
27 Washington's clean energy sector industries;

28 (b) Promote investment in specialized research facilities and
29 signature research centers where Washington has a distinct or emerging
30 advantage for creating new products and businesses;

31 (c) Develop the entrepreneurial and management capacity critical to
32 the competitiveness of Washington's clean energy sector industries and
33 rapidly growing global markets;

34 (d) Enhance the international competitiveness of Washington's clean
35 energy industries;

36 (e) Address workforce issues for occupations critical to the
37 competitiveness of Washington's clean energy sector industries;

1 (f) Promote agreements between public and private postsecondary
2 educational institutions and private industry that increase technology
3 transfer and the commercialization of research; and

4 (g) Promote collaboration among research institutions, the federal
5 government, and private industry that will capitalize on opportunities
6 to obtain private and federal funding for the research and development
7 of clean energy products, technologies, and materials.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.20 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 The clean energy collaborative established in RCW 28B.20.296, in
11 coordination with a national laboratory located east of the crest of
12 the Cascade mountains, shall develop a portfolio of the most promising
13 and emerging clean energy technologies. The clean energy collaborative
14 shall also address energy efficiency infrastructure needs including:

15 (1) Developing a regional collaboration to strengthen energy
16 efficiency achievement;

17 (2) Providing a forum to ensure regional collaboration is realized;

18 (3) Promoting greater understanding and use of the behavioral
19 aspects of energy efficiency;

20 (4) Counting and crediting energy efficiency and recovering energy
21 efficiency costs; and

22 (5) Realigning institutional roles while maintaining customer
23 relationships.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) By December 1, 2009, the Washington
25 technology center shall provide a report to the appropriate legislative
26 committees on the progress of the clean energy collaborative and the
27 development of a strategy and a clean energy inventory as required in
28 section 3(1) of this act.

29 (2) By December 1, 2011, the Washington technology center shall
30 provide a report on the achievements of the clean energy collaborative
31 and include recommendations for a structure to maintain a venue for
32 clean energy leadership in Washington state.

33 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28B.20.289 and 2003 c 403 s 11 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

1 (1) The technology center shall be administered by the board of
2 directors of the technology center.

3 (2) The board shall consist of the following members: Fourteen
4 members from among individuals who are associated with or employed by
5 technology-based industries and have broad business experience and an
6 understanding of high technology; eight members from the state's
7 universities with graduate science and engineering programs; the
8 executive director of the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and
9 Technology Institute or his or her designated representative; the
10 provost of the University of Washington or his or her designated
11 representative; the provost of the Washington State University or his
12 or her designated representative; and the director of the department of
13 community, trade, and economic development or his or her designated
14 representative. The term of office for each board member, excluding
15 the executive director of the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and
16 Technology Institute, the provost of the University of Washington, the
17 provost of the Washington State University, and the director of the
18 department of community, trade, and economic development, shall be
19 three years. The executive director of the technology center shall be
20 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board. The board shall meet at
21 least quarterly. Board members shall be appointed by the governor
22 based on the recommendations of the existing board of the technology
23 center, and the research universities. The governor shall stagger the
24 terms of the first group of appointees to ensure the long term
25 continuity of the board.

26 (3) The duties of the board include:

27 (a) Developing the general operating policies for the technology
28 center;

29 (b) Appointing the executive director of the technology center;

30 (c) Approving the annual operating budget of the technology center;

31 (d) Establishing priorities for the selection and funding of
32 research projects that guarantee the greatest potential return on the
33 state's investment;

34 (e) Approving and allocating funding for research projects
35 conducted by the technology center, based on the recommendations of the
36 advisory committees for each of the research centers;

37 (f) ~~((In cooperation with the department of community, trade, and~~

1 ~~economic development, developing a biennial work plan and five year~~
2 ~~strategic plan for the technology center that are consistent with the~~
3 ~~statewide technology development and commercialization goals;~~

4 ~~(g))~~ Coordinating with the University of Washington, Washington
5 State University, and other participating institutions of higher
6 education in the development of training, research, and development
7 programs to be conducted at the technology center that shall be
8 targeted to meet industrial needs;

9 ~~((h))~~ (g) Assisting the department of community, trade, and
10 economic development in the department's efforts to develop state
11 science and technology public policies and coordinate publicly funded
12 programs;

13 ~~((i))~~ (h) Performing the duties required under chapter 70.210 RCW
14 relating to the investing in innovation grants program;

15 ~~((j))~~ (i) Reviewing annual progress reports on funded research
16 projects that are prepared by the advisory committees for each of the
17 research centers;

18 ~~((k))~~ (j) Providing an annual report to the governor and the
19 legislature detailing the activities and performance of the technology
20 center; and

21 ~~((l))~~ (k) Submitting annually to the department of community,
22 trade, and economic development an updated strategic plan and a
23 statement of performance measured against the mission, roles, and
24 contractual obligations of the technology center.

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