
HOUSE BILL 2155

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 2nd Special Session

By Representatives Kenney, Sells, Haler, Seaquist, Hansen, Maxwell,
and Carlyle; by request of Governor Gregoire

Read first time 12/08/11. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the joint center for aerospace technology
2 innovation; and adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The joint center for aerospace
5 technology innovation is created.

6 (2) The purpose of the center is to advance research on new
7 technologies that offer the promise of creating innovative products
8 that can be used in aerospace. The center shall be designed to enhance
9 the education of students in the engineering departments of the
10 University of Washington, Washington State University, and other
11 participating institutions through industry-focused research.

12 (3) The center shall be operated and administered as a multi-
13 institutional education and research center, housing appropriate
14 research and development programs conducted in various locations within
15 Washington under the joint authority of the University of Washington
16 and Washington State University. The facilities of the center must be
17 made available to other institutions of higher education when this
18 would benefit specific program needs.

1 (4) The initial location of the center shall be west of the crest
2 of the Cascade mountains. Research sponsored by the center must
3 leverage experimental work at the University of Washington and
4 Washington State University.

5 (5) The center must:

6 (a) Conduct research that is designed to benefit the intermediate
7 and long-term economic vitality of the Washington aerospace industry;

8 (b) Advance industry innovation while safeguarding intellectual
9 property;

10 (c) Develop and strengthen university-industry relationships
11 through the conduct of research that is primarily of interest to
12 aerospace companies doing business in Washington;

13 (d) Encourage a full range of projects from small research projects
14 that meet the specific needs of a smaller company to large scale,
15 multipartner projects;

16 (e) Provide substantial opportunities for training undergraduate
17 and graduate students through direct involvement in research and
18 participation with industry;

19 (f) Emphasize and develop nonstate support of the center's research
20 activities through leveraging dollars from federal and private for-
21 profit and nonprofit sources;

22 (g) Seek to leverage its financial impact through joint support
23 arrangements on a project-by-project basis as appropriate;

24 (h) Provide a forum for effective interaction between the state's
25 aerospace industry and its academic institutions through promotion of
26 faculty collaboration with industry, sponsoring at least one annual
27 symposium focusing on aerospace research in the state of Washington;

28 (i) Establish mechanisms for soliciting and evaluating proposals
29 and for making awards and reporting on technological progress,
30 financial leverage, and other measures of impact; and

31 (j) Report biennially to the legislature and the governor about the
32 impact of the center's work on the state's economy and the aerospace
33 sector, with projections of future impact, providing indicators of its
34 impact, and outlining ideas for enhancing benefits to the state. The
35 report must be coordinated with the governor's office and applicable
36 executive branch agencies.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** An advisory board is created. The board
2 shall consist of five members appointed by the governor representing
3 higher education and the aerospace industry. The terms of the initial
4 members shall be staggered.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Staff support shall be provided from among
6 the cooperating institutions through cooperative agreements to the
7 extent funds are available.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The center may hire a director and staff as
9 necessary to operate the center. The director may enter into
10 cooperative agreements for programs and research with public and
11 private organizations including state and nonstate agencies consistent
12 with policies of the participating institutions.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The center may receive and expend federal
14 funds and any private gifts or grants to further its mission. The
15 funds are to be expended in accordance with federal and state law and
16 any conditions contingent in the grant of those funds.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute
18 a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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