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SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5169

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State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

**By** Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Kastama, Zarelli, Pridemore, Haugen, Jacobsen, Kohl-Welles, Rasmussen, Delvin and Roach)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington international relations  
2 foundation; adding a new chapter to Title 44 RCW; creating a new  
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Washington is one of the most trade-dependent states in the  
7 nation;

8 (b) Washington benefits from the exchange of economic, educational,  
9 and cultural information and ideas among government leaders and other  
10 citizens of foreign countries and members of the Washington legislature  
11 and other citizens of our state;

12 (c) The participation of Washington state legislators in inbound  
13 and outbound trade missions enables the legislature to craft  
14 legislation that better addresses trade issues and fosters better  
15 understanding between the people of Washington and the people of other  
16 nations;

17 (d) Economic and business missions to foreign countries often have  
18 the effect of bringing investment and jobs to Washington through  
19 person-to-person contact and networking; and

1 (e) Washington benefits from hosting visitors from other nations to  
2 foster business and cultural relationships.

3 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the state increase its  
4 support for trade, cultural, and economic exchanges that contribute to  
5 the economic development of our state. It is further the intent of the  
6 legislature that the state facilitate and encourage these exchanges  
7 through the evaluation, organization, and execution of missions.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply  
9 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

10 (1) "Foundation" means the Washington international relations  
11 foundation.

12 (2) "Government leader" means an elected official of the government  
13 of a foreign nation, including officials of national, state, or  
14 provincial governments.

15 (3) "Inbound mission" means a trip on which government leaders are  
16 invited to travel to the state of Washington by the Washington state  
17 legislature in order to learn about the culture, economy, or  
18 governmental structure of the state of Washington.

19 (4) "Mission" means either an inbound or an outbound mission.

20 (5) "Outbound mission" means a trip on which members of the  
21 Washington state legislature are invited to travel to a particular  
22 nation by a national, provincial, or state government in order to learn  
23 about the culture, economy, or governmental structure of the nation,  
24 province, or state that extended the invitation.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The Washington international relations  
26 foundation is organized as a private, nonprofit corporation in  
27 accordance with chapter 24.03 RCW and this section. The purpose of the  
28 foundation is to provide assistance to the Washington state legislature  
29 in furthering the exchange of economic, educational, and cultural  
30 information between government leaders and other citizens of foreign  
31 countries and members of the Washington state legislature and other  
32 citizens of Washington.

33 (2) The foundation is authorized to plan, organize, and implement  
34 inbound and outbound missions that exchange information relating to  
35 government, trade and commerce, agriculture, tourism, sports,  
36 education, technology, environment, and the arts.

1 (3)(a) The foundation shall coordinate with appropriate agencies of  
2 the executive branch to ensure that legislators on any missions it  
3 organizes or assists with will present the state's trade goals in a  
4 manner consistent with executive branch policies.

5 (b) The foundation shall coordinate with the governor's protocol  
6 officer, the department of agriculture, and the department of  
7 community, trade, and economic development in the preparation of  
8 legislators for meeting with government leaders and other citizens of  
9 foreign countries. Such preparation shall include the provision of  
10 information on the cultures of other countries and accepted  
11 international hospitality practices.

12 (c) When the governor's office, the office of the secretary of  
13 state, the office of the lieutenant governor, the department of  
14 agriculture, or the department of community, trade, and economic  
15 development are preparing for a mission and invite the participation of  
16 legislators, the foundation shall assist in logistics and planning.

17 (4)(a) The foundation may sponsor outbound missions allowing  
18 citizens of Washington to travel overseas. Participants on such  
19 missions will be selected by the foundation based on the following  
20 considerations:

21 (i) The applicants' showing of how their skills and expertise would  
22 be germane to the mission;

23 (ii) The applicants' showing of how their participation will  
24 benefit them and their business, employer, or school;

25 (iii) The applicants' showing of how they will benefit the state as  
26 a result of their participation. This may include, but is not limited  
27 to, the publication of reports, delivery of lectures, or writing of  
28 newspaper or magazine articles; and

29 (iv) The amount of matching funds the applicant will provide.

30 (b) In selecting participants for such mission, the foundation will  
31 give preference to those applicants who have not traveled overseas  
32 before.

33 (5) The foundation may solicit charitable donations, gifts, or  
34 grants from private or public sources.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The articles of incorporation of the  
36 Washington international relations foundation must be drawn up by a  
37 committee consisting of the following members:

1 (a) Two senators from each of the two major political parties in  
2 the Washington state senate, appointed by the president of the senate;

3 (b) Two representatives from each of the two major political  
4 parties in the Washington state house of representatives, appointed by  
5 the speaker of the house of representatives; and

6 (c) Three private citizens, representing organizations concerned  
7 with international trade.

8 (2) The speaker of the house of representatives and the president  
9 of the senate must jointly appoint the chair of the committee.

10 (3) The committee shall write the articles of incorporation for the  
11 Washington international relations foundation within ninety days after  
12 the effective date of this section.

13 (4) The committee shall appoint the initial directors of the  
14 Washington international relations foundation as well as the initial  
15 officers of the foundation within thirty days after the articles of  
16 incorporation are completed.

17 (5) The committee must disband within thirty days of completing the  
18 tasks assigned to it in this section.

19 (6) This section expires June 30, 2008.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Upon receiving an official invitation or  
21 proposal to develop an inbound or outbound mission, the Washington  
22 international relations foundation shall contact the governmental  
23 entity issuing the invitation or proposal and determine the following:

24 (a) The length of the proposed mission;

25 (b) The number of legislators or government leaders invited to  
26 participate;

27 (c) The benefit to the state of Washington;

28 (d) The number and type of businesses invited to participate, if  
29 any;

30 (e) Whether a reciprocal mission is expected; and

31 (f) Other facts pertinent to the planning and organization of the  
32 mission.

33 (2) Senators participating in a mission shall be appointed by the  
34 president of the senate, with the advice of the majority and minority  
35 caucus leaders. Members of the house of representatives participating  
36 in a mission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, with the  
37 advice of the majority and minority caucus leaders.

1 (3) Prior to the departure of each mission, the foundation must  
2 create and release to the public a goals statement for the mission.  
3 The statement must include, but is not limited to:

4 (a) A statement of the mission's objectives, dates, and expected  
5 itinerary; and

6 (b) A description of the type of knowledge, background, and  
7 experience held by a delegation member that might provide assistance to  
8 the mission.

9 (4) At the conclusion of each mission the foundation shall solicit  
10 feedback about the mission and its results from each participating  
11 legislator or government leader.

12 (5) Following completion of the mission the foundation must prepare  
13 a report, and make it available to the public that includes, but is not  
14 limited to, the following:

15 (a) How the mission achieved or made progress towards achieving the  
16 goals stated before the mission;

17 (b) The names and titles of all participants of the mission;

18 (c) The names and titles of officials visited during the mission;

19 (d) A detailed itinerary of the mission;

20 (e) The cost of the mission borne by the foundation; and

21 (f) The approximate costs of the mission borne by individuals.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The Washington international relations  
23 foundation may expend funds necessary for meetings, activities, or  
24 events associated with missions.

25 (2) The foundation may not use funds to pay an honorarium to any  
26 director, officer, or employee of the state of Washington.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The Washington international relations  
28 foundation may not carry on propaganda, attempt to influence state or  
29 federal legislation, or participate or intervene in any political  
30 campaign, including the distribution of statements, on behalf of any  
31 candidate for public office.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The Washington international relations  
33 foundation account is created in the state treasury. The account shall  
34 consist of all moneys appropriated to the account by the legislature.

1 Moneys deposited into the account shall be used by the Washington  
2 international relations foundation, after appropriation, to perform the  
3 purposes of this act.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 1 through 3 and 5 through 8 of this  
5 act constitute a new chapter in Title 44 RCW.

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