
SENATE BILL 5744

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Kastama and Kilmer

Read first time 01/30/2007. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Management.

1 AN ACT Relating to the ISO-9000 quality standards training program;
2 amending RCW 43.31.088; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is a primary
5 goal of economic development to increase the competitiveness of
6 Washington businesses in the global market. The legislature further
7 finds that ISO-9000 certification is highly regarded in the global
8 market and that attaining certification improves relationships with
9 customers and suppliers. The legislature further finds that attaining
10 ISO-9000 certification is an important step for many Washington
11 businesses in becoming viable exporters or suppliers for companies that
12 export. The process of becoming ISO-9000 certified can prove a
13 complicated and expensive one for many Washington businesses.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.31.088 and 1994 c 140 s 2 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) (~~The department, through its business assistance center, shall~~
17 ~~assist companies seeking to adopt ISO 9000 quality standards. The~~
18 ~~department shall:~~

- 1 ~~(a) Prepare and disseminate information regarding ISO-9000;~~
2 ~~(b) Assemble and maintain information on public and private sector~~
3 ~~individuals, organizations, educational institutions, and advanced~~
4 ~~technology centers that can provide technical assistance to firms that~~
5 ~~wish to become ISO-registered;~~
6 ~~(c) Assemble and maintain information on Washington firms which~~
7 ~~have received ISO registration;~~
8 ~~(d) Undertake other activities it deems necessary to execute this~~
9 ~~section;~~
10 ~~(e) Survey appropriate sectors to determine the level of interest~~
11 ~~in receiving ISO-9000 certification and coordinate with the program;~~
12 ~~(f) Establish a mechanism for businesses to make self-assessments~~
13 ~~of relative need to become ISO-9000 certified;~~
14 ~~(g) Assist and support nonprofit organizations, and other~~
15 ~~organizations, currently providing education, screening, and~~
16 ~~certification training; and~~
17 ~~(h) Coordinate the Washington program with other similar state,~~
18 ~~regional, and federal programs.~~

19 ~~(2) For the purposes of this section, "ISO-9000" means the series~~
20 ~~of standards published in 1987, and subsequent revisions, by the~~
21 ~~international organization for standardization for quality assurance in~~
22 ~~design, development, production, final inspection and testing, and~~
23 ~~installation and servicing of products, processes, and services.~~

24 ~~(3) For the purposes of this section, registration to the American~~
25 ~~national standards institute/American society for quality control Q90~~
26 ~~series shall be considered ISO-9000 registration.)) For the purposes of~~
27 ~~this act, "ISO-9000" means the series of standards published in 1987,~~
28 ~~and subsequent revisions, by the international organization for~~
29 ~~standardization which provides quality assurance in design,~~
30 ~~development, production, final inspection and testing, and installation~~
31 ~~and servicing of products, processes, and services.~~

32 (2) The ISO-9000 quality standards training assistance program is
33 established in the department of community, trade, and economic
34 development. In implementing the program, the department must:

35 (a) Convene a working group, consisting of representatives from
36 Washington manufacturing services, the Washington technology center,
37 and the small business development center to develop and implement an
38 ISO-9000 quality standards training assistance program; and

1 (b) Contract for technical assistance services to be delivered to
2 businesses in the state to allow them to meet ISO-9000 certification
3 standards. The organization with which the department contracts under
4 this subsection (2)(b) must:

5 (i) Provide to companies ISO-9000 certification training classes
6 that must: Instruct companies on the requirements of the ISO-9000
7 standards; offer internal audit training; critique their procedures;
8 offer suggestions as to how their procedures can be improved; and
9 provide a gap audit at the completion of the program;

10 (ii) Recruit for the classes using their own network of contacts,
11 as well as industry associations, cluster associations, chambers of
12 commerce, and economic development councils to fill classes;

13 (iii) Provide a lead auditor, who has obtained certification from
14 a nationally recognized certification board;

15 (iv) Provide for a gap audit by lead auditors to help companies
16 finalize their requirements for certification. The auditor must give
17 the companies a list of nonconformances with the ISO-9000 standards.
18 After these nonconformances are corrected by a company, the company
19 must be determined to have successfully completed the program; and

20 (v) Charge a fee to companies that participate in the program.
21 This fee may be on a sliding scale. After a company successfully
22 completes the program and becomes ISO-9000 certified, the company must
23 be refunded half of this fee.

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