
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1800

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Fraser, Ballard, Van Luven, Ebersole, Anderson, McLean, Jacobsen, Cantwell, Ferguson, Belcher, Rasmussen, Wang, Locke, Winsley, Paris, Phillips and Wineberry).

Read first time March 1, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to international relations and protocol; amending
2 RCW 43.31.145; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; creating new
3 sections; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is in the
6 public interest to create an office of international relations and
7 protocol in order to: Make international relations and protocol a
8 broad-based, focused, and functional part of state government; develop
9 and promote state policies that increase international literacy and
10 cross-cultural understanding among Washington state's citizens; expand
11 Washington state's international cooperation role in such areas as the
12 environment, education, science, culture, and sports; establish
13 coordinated methods for responding to the increasing number of
14 inquiries by foreign governments and institutions seeking cooperative
15 activities within Washington state; provide leadership in state

1 government on international relations and assistance to the legislature
2 and state elected officials on international issues affecting the
3 state; assist with multistate international efforts; and coordinate and
4 improve communication and resource sharing among various state offices,
5 agencies, and educational institutions with international programs.

6 It is the purpose of this chapter to bring these functions together
7 in a new office under the office of the governor in order to establish
8 a visible, coordinated, and comprehensive approach to international
9 relations and protocol.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of international relations
11 and protocol is created under the office of the governor. The office
12 shall serve as the state's official liaison and protocol office with
13 foreign governments. The governor shall appoint a director of the
14 office of international relations and protocol, who shall serve at the
15 pleasure of the governor. Because of the diplomatic character of this
16 office, the director and staff will be exempt from the provisions of
17 chapter 41.06 RCW. The director will be paid a salary to be fixed by
18 the governor in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.03.040. The
19 director may hire such personnel as may be necessary for the general
20 administration of the office. To the extent permitted by law, state
21 agencies may temporarily loan staff to the office of international
22 relations and protocol to assist in carrying out the office's duties
23 and responsibilities under this chapter. An arrangement to temporarily
24 loan staff must have the approval of the staff members to be loaned and
25 the directors of the office and the agencies involved in the loan.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The office of international relations
27 and protocol shall:

1 (1) Advise and assist the governor, the legislature, and other
2 independently elected officials on international developments that may
3 affect the state.

4 (2) Serve as a resource and clearinghouse for information on
5 international activities within state government, including higher
6 education.

7 (3) Coordinate protocol for foreign dignitaries visiting the
8 governor, the legislature, the judiciary, and other state offices and
9 agencies.

10 (4) Coordinate protocol for state officials visiting with foreign
11 officials and delegations.

12 (5) Advise and assist state government with its protocol needs.

13 (6) Coordinate the state's existing sister state relationships with
14 Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, and Sichuan Province, China. The office shall
15 assist with development of additional sister state relationships, as
16 appropriate, and coordinate with the Hyogo cultural center in Seattle,
17 Washington.

18 (7) Consult with and assist Washington state cities and counties in
19 the formation of sister cities or sister counties in other countries.

20 (8) Serve as principal liaison between the governor, the
21 legislature, and other offices of state government, and the Seattle
22 consular corps and diplomatic offices serving Washington state in San
23 Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C.

24 (9) Advise and assist the governor and legislature with their
25 participation in the Pacific Northwest economic community.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of international relations
27 and protocol may:

28 (1) Create temporary advisory committees as necessary to deal with
29 specific international issues. Advisory committee representation may

1 include external organizations such as the Seattle consular corps,
2 world affairs councils, public ports, world trade organizations,
3 private nonprofit organizations dealing with international education or
4 international environmental issues, organizations concerned with
5 international understanding, businesses with experience in
6 international relations, or other organizations deemed appropriate by
7 the director.

8 (2) Accept or request grants or gifts from citizens and other
9 private sources to be used to defray the costs of appropriate hosting
10 of foreign dignitaries, including appropriate gift-giving and
11 reciprocal gift-giving, or other activities of the office. The office
12 shall open and maintain a bank account into which it shall deposit all
13 money received under this subsection. Such money and the interest
14 accruing thereon shall not constitute public funds, shall be kept
15 segregated and apart from funds of the state, and shall not be subject
16 to appropriation or allotment by the state or subject to chapter 43.88
17 RCW.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** There is established internal to state
19 government an international relations advisory committee to the office
20 of international relations and protocol. The purpose of the advisory
21 committee is to advise the office of international relations and
22 protocol on matters pertaining to state and local government, including
23 state and local government policy and resource coordination, and to
24 otherwise facilitate the operation of the office. The advisory
25 committee shall consist of members appointed by the governor to include
26 representation of the following interests: Trade, tourism, economic
27 development, education, agriculture, fisheries, wildlife, and
28 environmental interests. At least one member shall be a state-wide
29 elected official from the executive branch other than the governor; one

1 member shall represent the state judiciary; one member shall represent
2 the governor; two members shall be members of the Washington state
3 house of representatives; and two members shall be members of the
4 Washington state senate. The advisory committee member representing
5 the governor shall chair the advisory committee. The governor may
6 appoint representatives of cities, counties, and port districts.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act shall
8 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

9 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.31.145 and 1985 c 466 s 18 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 The department is charged with the primary role within state
12 government for the establishment and operation of foreign offices
13 created for the purpose of promoting overseas trade and commerce.
14 (~~The department shall serve as the state's official liaison and~~
15 ~~protocol office with foreign governments.~~)

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** All powers, duties, and functions of the
17 office of international relations and protocol in the department of
18 trade and economic development are transferred to the office of
19 international relations and protocol under the office of the governor.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** All reports, documents, surveys, books,
21 records, files, papers, or written material in the possession of the
22 department of trade and economic development pertaining to the powers,
23 functions, and duties transferred shall be delivered to the custody of
24 the office of international relations and protocol. All cabinets,
25 furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible
26 property employed by the department of trade and economic development

1 in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be
2 made available to the office of international relations and protocol.
3 All funds, credits, or other assets held in connection with the powers,
4 functions, and duties transferred shall be assigned to the office of
5 international relations and protocol.

6 Any appropriations made to the department of trade and economic
7 development for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties
8 transferred shall, on the effective date of this section, be
9 transferred and credited to the office of international relations and
10 protocol.

11 Whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel,
12 funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other
13 tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the
14 performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of
15 financial management shall make a determination as to the proper
16 allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** All employees of the department of trade
18 and economic development engaged in performing the powers, functions,
19 and duties transferred are transferred to the jurisdiction of the
20 office of international relations and protocol.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** All rules and all pending business
22 before the department of trade and economic development pertaining to
23 the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be continued and
24 acted upon by the office of international relations and protocol. All
25 existing contracts and obligations shall remain in full force and shall
26 be performed by the office of international relations and protocol.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The transfer of the powers, duties,
2 functions, and personnel of the department of trade and economic
3 development shall not affect the validity of any act performed prior to
4 the effective date of this section.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** If apportionments of budgeted funds are
6 required because of the transfers directed by sections 9 through 12 of
7 this act, the director of financial management shall certify the
8 apportionments to the agencies affected, the state auditor, and the
9 state treasurer. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and
10 adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records
11 in accordance with the certification.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Nothing contained in sections 8 through
13 13 of this act may be construed to alter any existing collective
14 bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing collective bargaining
15 agreement until the agreement has expired or until the bargaining unit
16 has been modified by action of the personnel board as provided by law.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** This act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
19 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
20 effect July 1, 1991.