
HOUSE BILL 1977

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Belcher, Prentice, Inslee, Rayburn and Rasmussen.

Read first time February 18, 1991. Referred to Committee on
Agriculture & Rural Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to agricultural marketing; and amending RCW
2 43.63A.560.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.63A.560 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 67 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The department shall administer a grant program which makes
7 grants to local nonprofit organizations for rural economic development
8 or for sharing economic growth outside the Puget Sound region. The
9 grants shall be used to: (a) Develop urban-rural links; (b) build
10 local capacity for economic growth; or (c) improve the export of
11 products or services from rural areas to locations outside the United
12 States.

13 (2) In developing urban-rural links, the department shall seek to
14 increase in-state direct marketing opportunities for producers of
15 agricultural products. Grants may be used to help small acreage

1 producers pool their products, such as through marketing cooperatives
2 and farmers markets, and to sell directly to major in-state commercial
3 buyers and consumers.

4 (3) The department shall consult with, and if necessary form an
5 advisory committee including, a diverse group of private sector
6 representatives including, but not limited to, major corporations,
7 commercial financial institutions, venture capitalists, small
8 businesses, natural resource businesses, and developers to determine
9 what opportunities for new investment and business growth might be
10 available for areas outside high-growth counties. The department shall
11 also consult with the department of trade and economic development and,
12 if appropriate, the department of agriculture and Washington State
13 University's cooperative extension. The department shall seek to
14 maximize and link new investment opportunities to grant projects under
15 this section.

16 ~~((3))~~ (4) The department may enact rules to carry out this
17 section.