

HB 1623-S - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 2ND SUB)

Declares it to be a clear public purpose and governmental function to promote life sciences research to foster a preventive and predictive vision of the next generation of health-related innovations, to enhance the competitive position of Washington state in this vital sector of the economy, and to improve the quality and delivery of health care for the people of Washington.

Finds it is appropriate and consistent with the intent of the master settlement agreement between the state and tobacco product manufacturers to invest a portion of the revenues derived therefrom by the state in life sciences research, to leverage the revenues with other funds, and to encourage cooperation and innovation among public and private institutions involved in life sciences research.

Declares that the purpose of this act is to establish a life sciences discovery fund authority, to grant that authority the power to contract with the state to receive revenues under the master settlement agreement, and to contract with other entities to receive other funds, and to disburse those funds consistent with the purpose of this chapter. The life sciences discovery fund is intended to promote the best available research in life sciences disciplines through diverse Washington institutions and to foster improved health care outcomes across this state and the world. The research investments of the life sciences discovery fund are intended to further the goals of the "Bio 21" report and to support future statewide, comprehensive strategies to lead the nation in life sciences-related research and employment.