

CHAPTER 221.

[Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 170.]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—OFFICE OF FOREIGN TRADE.

AN ACT relating to state government; providing a new division in the department of commerce and economic development; amending section 43.31.040, chapter 8, Laws of 1965 as amended by section 2, chapter 10, Laws of 1965, and RCW 43.31.040; and adding new sections to chapter 43.31 RCW.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

New section.

Section 1. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Department of commerce and economic development. Development of foreign trade. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the legislature that the state through the department of commerce and economic development shall:

(1) Promote, encourage, and cooperate in the development of foreign trade by the state of Washington;

(2) Advise, inform, and assist citizens of the state regarding foreign market potentials and operational procedures of foreign trade;

(3) Stimulate the business and professional community of the state to actively engage in the promotion and development of foreign trade;

(4) Foster closer ties between the state and foreign countries to the end that social, cultural, and economic barriers to trade may be reduced to a minimum.

RCW 43.31.040 amended.

Sec. 2. Section 43.31.040, chapter 8, Laws of 1965 as amended by section 2, chapter 10, Laws of 1965, and RCW 43.31.040 are each amended to read as follows:

Divisions of department.

The department of commerce and economic development shall be organized into divisions, including (1) the industrial development division, (2) the

tourist promotion division, (3) the research division, (4) the nuclear energy development division, to be known as the "office of nuclear energy development," (5) the foreign trade division, to be known as the "office of foreign trade," and others as required.

The director of commerce and economic development may appoint such division supervisors, managers, or executive directors, and clerical supervisors and other assistants as may be necessary for the general administration of the department.

Sec. 3. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The department of commerce and economic development shall through the office of foreign trade, in furtherance of its stated objectives of continuing and accelerating the growth of the economy and enhancing the economic well-being of its citizens and its commerce, encourage, promote, and cooperate in the development of existing and potential sources of foreign trade. Pursuant to chapter 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, the director shall appoint personnel with such qualifications as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this 1967 amendatory act. The person appointed as supervisor or manager of the office of foreign trade shall be known as the executive director of the office of foreign trade.

New section.

Promotion of foreign trade by office of foreign trade.

Sec. 4. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The department of commerce and economic development through the office of foreign trade is hereby designated the agency of state government for the promotion and development of foreign trade and shall, in addition to the powers and duties otherwise imposed by law, have the following powers and duties:

Powers and duties of office of foreign trade.

Powers and duties of office of foreign trade.

(1) To study the potential marketability of various agricultural, natural resource, and manufacturing commodities of this state in foreign trade;

(2) To collect, prepare, and analyze foreign and domestic market data;

(3) To maintain close contact with foreign firms and governmental agencies and to act as an effective intermediary between foreign nations and Washington traders;

(4) To publish and disseminate to interested citizens and others information which will aid in carrying out the purposes of this 1967 amendatory act;

(5) To encourage and promote the movement of foreign and domestic goods through the ports of Washington;

(6) To conduct an active program by sending representatives to, or engaging representatives in, foreign countries to promote the state as a foreign trade center;

(7) To assist and to make Washington agricultural, natural resource, and manufacturing concerns more aware of the potentials of foreign trade and to encourage production of those commodities which will have high export potentials and appeal;

(8) To administer state participation in state or international trade fairs;

(9) To coordinate the trade promotional activities of federal, state, and local public agencies, as well as civic organizations.

Severability.

Sec. 5. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the act to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Passed the House March 2, 1967.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1967.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1967.