

one thousand population or fraction thereof: PROVIDED, That any fire department maintaining and operating an emergency first aid and ambulance service requiring emergency medical training under chapter 18.73 RCW shall be permitted to increase its membership by the number of firemen obtaining and maintaining such qualification: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no person serving as an emergency medical technician or first aid vehicle operator under chapter 18.73 RCW shall be permitted to join the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system solely on the basis of such service: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in no case shall the membership of any fire department coming under the provisions of this chapter be limited to less than fifteen firemen.

Passed the Senate February 23, 1976.

Passed the House February 20, 1976.

Approved by the Governor March 2, 1976.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 2, 1976.

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## CHAPTER 68

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 3271]

### BUSINESS COORDINATION ACT

AN ACT Relating to commerce and economic development; 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:

It is the sense of the legislature that the heavy burdens placed upon persons proposing to undertake certain types of businesses in this state through requirements to obtain numerous permits and related documents from various state agencies are undesirable and should be alleviated. The legislature further finds that present methods for obtaining such permits from state agencies are cumbersome and place undue hardships on persons attempting to go into business for themselves. The legislature further finds that multiple inspections related to these permits by the various state agencies is also a burden on many businesses which should be alleviated.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that a pilot program be established to seek to alleviate these problems for one type of business, grocery stores, with the intent that additional businesses will be assisted as the mechanics of this pilot program are established and proven workable.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

For purposes of sections 1 through 8 of this act the following words mean, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) "Department" means the department of commerce and economic development.

(2) "Permit" means any license, permit, certificate, certification, approval, compliance schedule, or other similar document pertaining to regulation of businesses in general, and handling the products normally sold in grocery stores, plus

all health, safety, and consumer protection regulations as required by any state agency. For the purposes of sections 1 through 8 of this act, "permit" does not include "permits" issued by the department of ecology.

(3) "Person" means any individual, partnership, cooperative, or private corporation, attempting to establish a grocery operation in a new location, or seeking to continue an existing grocery operation.

(4) "Grocery" means any retail business engaged in the sale of food products (except fully prepared meals), beverages, and common household goods. Businesses offering other products and services are included but only covered under this act to the extent of the grocery related activities.

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

(1) Any person proposing a new grocery operation after June 30, 1976 shall submit a master application to the department requesting the issuance of all permits necessary prior to opening a new operation in the state of Washington. The master application shall be on a form furnished by the department and shall contain in consolidated form all information necessary for the various state agencies to issue a permit. These provisions shall apply to persons seeking to continue an existing operation after January 1, 1977.

(2) Upon receipt of a properly completed master application the department shall immediately send a copy to each state agency with potential jurisdiction over the proposed operation. Each notified agency shall respond in writing to the department within a reasonable time, as determined by the department, advising the department and the applicant (a) that it approves the application; (b) that it approves with certain conditions as specified; or, (c) that it denies the application with reasons given for the denial.

The department will then issue a master permit covering all the approvals and conditions excluding any denials. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to make appeals on conditions imposed or on permit denials through that normal appeal process established by the agency with jurisdiction for the issuances of such permit.

(3) A total fee based on the sum of fees for individual permits requested will accompany each master application and will be collected by the department and used to reimburse the various state agencies as per their schedules. The issuance of a master permit shall be in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any agency listed in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) All permits and inspections related to grocery operations by the following state agencies are covered under sections 1 through 8 of this act.

- (a) Department of Revenue;
- (b) Department of Labor and Industries;
- (c) Department of Employment Security;
- (d) Department of Agriculture;
- (e) Department of Fisheries;
- (f) Liquor Control Board;
- (g) State Pharmacy Board;
- (h) Department of Highways; and

(i) any other state agency, that may now or in the future issue permits or make inspections of grocery operations: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall be construed to eliminate state or local governmental health or safety inspections.

(5) All individual permits covered by this act shall expire according to a staggered schedule to be specified by the department of commerce and economic development. Costs for permits issued in the interim will be prorated according to the time each permit is in force.

(6) Starting January 1, 1977, annual renewals for all individual permits will be replaced by a master permit issued by the department of commerce and economic development. Renewals will be automatically granted under conditions originally imposed unless one of the regulatory agencies informs the department of revised restrictions to be imposed prior to such issuance.

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

The director of the department is authorized to establish a program for coordinating all inspections by state agencies of grocery establishments. Where practicable under existing law, he is authorized to require that inspections with similar objectives or involving common expertise be consolidated and performed by one inspector at one time. The director shall be authorized to provide special training to inspectors where it is determined that such training will assure the consolidation of certain inspections.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The department shall establish permit issuing centers in its office at Olympia and in all of its regional offices.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The department, after consultation with other state agencies and affected businesses, shall submit to the legislature by January 1, 1977, a report setting forth the results of the experience under sections 1 through 8 of this act together with any recommendations for: (1) Consolidating inspections further by change in existing statutes; (2) expanding the program to include other types of business; and (3) further improving procedures.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The rule of strict construction shall have no application to this chapter and it shall be liberally construed in order to carry out its purposes.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. There is added to chapter 43.31 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Sections 1 through 8 of this act shall be known as the "Business Coordination Act".

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. 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 provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Passed the Senate February 23, 1976.

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## CHAPTER 69

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 3274]

### PARKING FACILITIES NEAR FERRY TERMINALS—USE—FUNDING

AN ACT Relating to the financing of certain public improvements which may be used in whole or in part for Washington state ferry system purposes; and adding a new section to chapter 47.60 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 47.60 RCW a new section to read as follows:

(1) Whenever any county, city or other municipal corporation acquires or constructs any facility to be used in whole or in part for off-street parking of motor vehicles which is in the immediate vicinity of an existing or planned ferry terminal, the Washington toll bridge authority may enter into an agreement with such local governmental body providing for the use in part or at specified times of such facility as a holding area for traffic waiting to board a ferry or for parking by ferry patrons.

(2) As a part of an agreement authorized by subsection (1) of this section, the authority, subject to the limitations contained in RCW 47.60.380, may pledge any moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account in the motor vehicle fund, or to be deposited in said account, to guarantee the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued by a county, city or other municipal corporation to finance the acquisition or construction of such a parking facility. In making any such pledge, the authority shall reserve the right to issue its own bonds for the purpose of paying the costs of acquiring ferry vessels with the provision that such bonds shall rank on parity with the bonds authorized by this section as a lien upon moneys in or to be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account.

The authority shall also reserve the right to pledge moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account to guarantee subsequent bonds issued by any county, city or other municipal corporation to finance parking facilities as authorized in subsection (1) of this section with the provision that such subsequent bonds shall rank on parity with prior bonds guaranteed pursuant to this section as a lien upon moneys in or to be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account. To the extent of any pledge herein authorized, the authority shall use the first moneys