
HOUSE BILL 2173

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 2nd Special Session

By Representatives Moscoso, Dammeier, Probst, Sells, Jinkins, Stanford, Ryu, Billig, Ladenburg, Hansen, Tharinger, Maxwell, McCoy, Springer, Appleton, Kenney, Miloscia, Roberts, Kirby, Green, Wylie, and Ormsby

Read first time 12/12/11. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to implementing lean strategies at state agencies;
2 and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The legislature recognizes the value
5 to both taxpayers and state government agencies of implementing lean
6 strategies that assist the state in obtaining greater value from its
7 taxpayer investments in government services. Successful lean
8 implementation involves commitment to agency improvement by agency
9 managers and employees, all of whom contribute to nurturing a problem-
10 solving culture in the agency. It allows a continuous improvement
11 process, involving identification and reduction of waste, to become the
12 norm of the agency. These processes lead to the delivery of effective
13 and efficient services to the public.

14 (b) The legislature also recognizes that implementing lean
15 strategies during economic downturns, when the imperative to do more
16 with less is urgent, can preserve agency services and programs. At the
17 same time, the legislature recognizes that lean strategies are not
18 designed to focus on reducing the workforce. Therefore, it is the

1 intent of the legislature that lean strategies be used to enhance and
2 preserve quality in state government and not be used as a strategy for
3 reducing the state workforce.

4 (2) Implementation of lean strategies in private sector businesses
5 has proven that such strategies assist these businesses to provide
6 smarter, more efficient services. On a pilot basis, these strategies
7 have also proven successful at the departments of commerce and
8 agriculture.

9 (3) It is the intent of the legislature to encourage additional
10 state agencies to implement lean strategies in order to increase
11 effectiveness and efficiency in delivering state services. A state
12 agency director that initiates a lean strategies effort may:

13 (a) For the purposes of implementing lean strategies, expend up to
14 two hundred thousand dollars of the moneys appropriated to the agency
15 that have not been appropriated for another specific purpose; and

16 (b) Request consultation and assistance in developing its lean
17 strategies from the department of commerce or the department of
18 agriculture.

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