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SENATE BILL NO. 392

INTRODUCED BY _____

BY REQUEST OF THE SENATE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNOR OR A DESIGNEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION; AMENDING SECTIONS 5-11-702, 5-11-703, AND 5-11-704, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 5-11-702, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-11-702. Participation in Pacific Northwest economic region. The Pacific Northwest economic region is hereby enacted into law and entered into by the state of Montana as a party and is in full force and effect in accordance with the terms of this agreement.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION

ARTICLE I -- Policy and Purpose

(1) States and provinces participating in the Pacific Northwest economic region shall seek to develop and establish policies that:

- (a) promote greater regional collaboration among the seven entities;
- (b) enhance the overall competitiveness of the region in international and domestic markets;
- (c) increase the economic well-being of all citizens in the region; and
- (d) improve the quality of life of the citizens of the Pacific Northwest.

(2) (a) States and provinces recognize that there are many public policy areas in which cooperation and joint efforts would be mutually beneficial. These areas include but are not limited to:

- (i) international trade;
- (ii) economic development;
- (iii) human resources;
- (iv) the environment and natural resources;
- (v) energy; and
- (vi) education.

1 (b) Parties to this agreement shall work diligently to establish collaborative activity in these and
2 other appropriate policy areas where such cooperation is considered to be worthwhile and of benefit to the
3 participating entities.

4 (c) Participating states and provinces also agree that there are areas in which cooperation may not
5 be feasible.

6 (3) The substantive actions of the Pacific Northwest economic region may take the form of uniform
7 legislation enacted by two or more states or provinces or policy initiatives endorsed as appropriate by
8 participating entities. It is not necessary for all states and provinces to participate in each initiative.

9 ARTICLE II -- Eligible Parties and Effective Date

10 (1) Each of the following states and provinces is eligible to become a party to this agreement:
11 Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

12 (2) This agreement establishing the Pacific Northwest economic region becomes effective when
13 it is executed by one state, one province, and one additional state or province in a form considered
14 appropriate by each entity.

15 (3) This agreement continues in force and remains binding upon each of the states and provinces
16 entering into it until renounced by the state or province.

17 (4) Renunciation of this agreement must be preceded by sending 1 year's notice in writing of
18 intention to withdraw from the agreement to all other parties to the agreement.

19 ARTICLE III -- Organizational Structure

20 (1) Each state and province participating in this agreement shall appoint representatives to the
21 Pacific Northwest economic region.

22 (2) The organizational structure of the Pacific Northwest economic region shall consist of the
23 following:

24 (a) a delegate council consisting of the governor or a designee and four legislators from each
25 participating state and four representatives from each participating province; and

26 (b) an executive committee consisting of one legislator from each participating state or province
27 who is a member of the delegate council and four of the governors or premiers or their designees.

28 (3) Policy committees may be established to carry out further duties and responsibilities of the
29 Pacific Northwest economic region.

30 ARTICLE IV -- Duties and Responsibilities

1 (1) The delegate council has the following duties and responsibilities:

2 (a) facilitate the involvement of other government officials in the development and implementation
3 of specific collaborative initiatives;

4 (b) work with policymaking committees in the development and implementation of specific
5 initiatives;

6 (c) approve general organizational policies developed by the executive committee;

7 (d) provide final approval of the annual budget and staffing structure for the Pacific Northwest
8 economic region developed by the executive committee; and

9 (e) other duties and responsibilities as may be established in the rules and regulations of the Pacific
10 Northwest economic region.

11 (2) The executive committee shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

12 (a) elect the president and vice president of the Pacific Northwest economic region;

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14 (c) develop the annual budget;

15 (d) devise the annual action plan;

16 (e) act as liaison with other public and private sector entities; and

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18 economic region.

19 (3) The rules and regulations of the Pacific Northwest economic region shall establish the procedure
20 for voting.

21 ARTICLE V -- Membership of Policy Committees

22 (1) Policy committees dealing with specific subject matter may be established by the executive
23 committee.

24 (2) Each participating state and province shall appoint legislators to sit on these policy committees
25 in accordance with its own rules and regulations concerning such appointments.

26 ARTICLE VI -- General Provisions

27 This agreement may not be construed to limit the powers of any state or province or to repeal or
28 prevent the enactment of any legislation."

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30 **Section 2.** Section 5-11-703, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"5-11-703. Appointment to Pacific Northwest economic region -- vacancy.** (1) Pursuant to
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8 (2) If the Pacific Northwest economic region establishes policy committees under 5-11-702, Article
9 V, appointments of legislators to the policy committees are to be made by the legislative council as
10 provided in 5-11-301.

11 (3) In the event that a vacancy occurs, appointment to fill the vacancy must be made in the same
12 manner as the original appointment."
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14 **Section 3.** Section 5-11-704, MCA, is amended to read:

15 **"5-11-704. Compensation of certain appointees to Pacific Northwest economic region.** ~~Members~~
16 Legislative members appointed to the Pacific Northwest economic region under 5-11-703 are entitled to
17 compensation as provided in 5-2-302."
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19 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 1995.
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- 22 (1) Policy committees dealing with specific subject matter may be established by the executive
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