

- SUBJECT:** Requiring state agencies to post link for cost-efficiency ideas
- COMMITTEE:** Government Efficiency and Reform — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 6 ayes — Callegari, Lucio, Cain, Frullo, Muñoz, Zedler  
0 nays  
1 absent — Harper-Brown
- WITNESSES:** For — Andy Wilson, Public Citizen, Inc.  
Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** In 2009, the federal government launched the Securing Americans' Value and Efficiency Award to seek ideas and suggestions from government employees on how to make the government more cost-efficient.  
  
Some state agencies and higher education institutions have implemented methods to gather ideas and suggestions on how to improve cost-efficiency, but none are required to do so.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 2439 would require a state agency with 1,500 or more employees to post an electronic form or link on its website allowing an employee to submit suggestions and ideas on how to make the agency more cost-efficient. The required link would have to allow members of the public to monitor submissions in real time or on a weekly or monthly basis and to vote for their favorite submissions.  
  
CSHB 2439 would exclude higher education institutions and any state agency that currently had a system for such submissions in place.  
  
The Department of Information Resources would have to establish procedures and required formats for implementation of the bill's provisions.  
  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2011.

NOTES:

According to the fiscal note, CSHB 2439 could cost an affected agency up to \$100,000 to implement the required provisions, but it would depend at least in part on the rules adopted by the Department of Information Resources.