WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §18B-12A-1

§18B-12A-1. Legislative findings and purpose.

(a) The Legislature finds that economic development in West Virginia depends in part on the effective and efficient management of research grants and opportunities at doctoral institutions of higher education, on collaborations developed between doctoral institutions and businesses and industry and on the advancement and commercialization of new and evolving technologies. It is in the best interests of citizens of the state to develop programs which promote these goals and contribute to the general economic welfare of citizens. In order to enhance the competitive position of doctoral institutions in the current environment for research and economic development, expenditures for equipment and material for research projects must be handled efficiently and effectively and the acquisition and use of grant funds should be simplified and expedited through the use of centers for economic development and technology advancement.

(b) The purpose of this article is to provide a mechanism for doctoral institutions to enter into agreements with centers for economic development and technology advancement to provide research assistance; to provide maximum flexibility as to the form of organization of centers so as to encourage and facilitate private sector participation in and support of research and economic development grants and opportunities in collaboration with doctoral institutions; to expedite the acquisition, administration and management of research and development grants and opportunities; to provide technical assistance in the commercialization of research opportunities; and to authorize doctoral institutions to contract with centers organized for the purpose of providing these services.

WV Legislature