



H-147-GOV

Request for Exemption From Statewide Hiring Freeze

Date of Request: May 4, 2009	Governor's Office
Contact Name: Pearse Edwards	Contact Phone: 360 902-4111
Contact Email: Pearse.edwards@gov.wa.gov	
Position Information (If multiple positions in the same job classification, submit requests on one form.)	
Position Number(s):	Job Classification (Title & Code): Speechwriter
Number Of Positions With This Job Classification? 1	How Long Has The Position(s) Been Vacant? April 30, 2009
Number Of Incumbents Currently In This Job Classification? 0	Permanent Or Non-Permanent Appointment? Permanent
Criticality of Position(s)	
Explain how this request involves critically necessary work of your agency? The governor's speechwriter is a critical position within the governor's office. Governor Gregoire is asked to give hundreds of speeches each year--from minor welcoming remarks to keynotes, to graduation speeches, to policy addresses, to general remarks on a wide variety of subjects. It is up to the speechwriter to get basic information about the event and prepare talking points or speeches for the governor. This position must be able to accurately research and reflect the governor's voice and policy issues into draft speeches in a timely manner so that the Governor can review and edit prior to an event.	
What is the barrier to distributing the workload to existing staff? The governor's office communications group is already down one position that we eliminated as a way to save money. The speechwriter position is a full time job which requires extensive telephone work, and research and writing skills.	
What are the consequences of not filling the position(s)? The governor's office will not be able to cover for this position. It is a position that takes specialized skills and talents. It is also a full time job that sometimes requires overtime. It is critical that accurate information be given to the residents of Washington.	
Agency Approval	
Director's Signature (required): <i>Cindy Zylender</i>	Date: 5/5/09

Submit signed form by email to:
ExemptionRequests@dop.wa.gov
Attn: DOP Director's Office

DOP Director Recommendation	
Approved, request meets exemption criteria <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied, request does not meet exemption criteria <input type="checkbox"/>
DOP Director's Signature: <i>W. Sullivan</i>	Date: 5/11/09

OFM Director Action	
Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denied <input type="checkbox"/>
Date Sent to Legislature:	
OFM Director's Signature: <i>V.A.H.</i>	Date: 5/11/09