HOUSE BILL 1513

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Lekanoff and Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to improving environmental health by reducing carbon emissions through increasing climate resilience and mitigating the effects of climate change by levying a carbon pollution tax, authorizing a climate finance bond program, and investing in clean economic growth; adding a new chapter to Title 82 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 70A RCW; and creating a new section.

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

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. (1) The emission of greenhouse gases, such 8 as carbon dioxide, is a significant contributor to anthropogenic 9 10 climate change, and has devastating adverse impacts on Washington's 11 economy, environment, natural resources, and communities. Our state 12 already experiencing rising sea levels, depleting snowpack, is increased flooding, acidifying oceans, and more frequent and severe 13 14 wildfires. These impacts impair our prosperity and impose burdensome 15 costs on our businesses and communities.

16 (2) Climate risk is economic risk, and it is imperative that 17 Washington act now to safeguard the state's communities and 18 industries against future shocks and disasters by putting a price on 19 practices that increase the state's exposure to risk and investing in 20 those that increase resilience. From farmers whose business is 21 directly threatened by the climate crisis, to coastal communities at

1 risk of outright displacement, the state must act now by investing 2 locally at the scale needed to move all Washingtonians toward a 3 future of shared prosperity as we build the clean economy here in 4 Washington state.

(3) Washington state is home to some of the world's most 5 innovative companies, a highly skilled workforce, and important 6 industries. As our state transitions away from a fossil fuel-based 7 economy, we must do so in a way that protects these assets and allows 8 our businesses to thrive. By launching a comprehensive fiscal program 9 that incentivizes and invests in resilient infrastructure and 10 climate-smart investments across all areas of development, we can 11 12 reduce our state's carbon dioxide emissions while preparing our economy for the future. 13

(4) Washington is home to more than 10,000,000 acres of working 14 forestlands, including private lands and state trust lands. These 15 16 lands represent the foundation of a forest products industry that 17 sequesters massive amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere simply through its standard, baseline operations. These working 18 forests are one of the state's greatest natural assets in combating 19 global greenhouse gas emissions. A statewide carbon policy must 20 21 support and maintain the ecosystem values provided by the forest 22 products industry. Healthy, sustainable, working forests maximize the 23 forests' ability to absorb carbon dioxide with lumber and other forest products continuing to sequester that carbon dioxide in their 24 25 useful life. For these reasons, this chapter exempts certain timber-26 related uses of fuels subject to the carbon pollution tax imposed under this chapter. 27

28 (5) Washington is also home to one of the most productive and innovative agricultural sectors in the world. Agriculture is not only 29 critical to our economy, but it is integral to our culture. With 30 31 farmers and farmworkers on the front lines of climate-related 32 disruption such as wildfire, flooding, drought, pests, and other 33 threats to the land, labor, and the business of farming, investing in practices that increase the natural and economic resilience of and 34 decrease the greenhouse gas emissions from Washington agriculture is 35 36 critical. Farmers have been leading the way on land stewardship and soil health for decades, while operating in a highly trade-exposed 37 price-constrained industry that imposes singular economic 38 and 39 challenges. For these reasons, this chapter exempts certain

agricultural uses of fuels subject to the carbon pollution tax
 imposed under this chapter.

(6) Fossil fuel combustion is also responsible for other 3 pollutants, such as nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide, benzene, 4 particulate matter, and others that contribute to respiratory 5 6 diseases like asthma and lung cancer, which compromise public health, shorten life expectancy, and strain our public health system. This 7 pollution affects all Washingtonians, but falls disproportionately on 8 low-income communities, communities of color, and the most vulnerable 9 10 of our population. Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels will therefore contribute to improved air quality and improved public 11 12 health outcomes.

(7) The legislature recognizes and finds that the public interest 13 includes, but is not limited to: The equitable distribution of energy 14 15 benefits and reduction of burdens to vulnerable populations and 16 highly impacted communities; long-term and short-term public health, 17 economic, and environmental benefits and the reduction of costs and risks; and energy security and resiliency. It is the intent of the 18 legislature that in achieving this policy for Washington, there 19 should not be an increase in environmental health impacts to highly 20 21 impacted communities.

The legislature finds that Washington is leading the 22 (8) transition to a clean energy economy, and in 2019 the state adopted 23 the Washington clean energy transformation act, chapter 19.405 RCW, 24 25 to eliminate coal-fired electricity, ensure that all retail sales of electricity to Washington customers are greenhouse gas neutral by 26 27 January 1, 2030, supply 100 percent of all retail sales to Washington 28 customers with nonemitting and renewable resources by January 1, 2045, and established strong compliance and enforcement mechanisms. 29 Because of the stringent requirements of the Washington clean energy 30 31 transformation act, the electricity sector is exempt from the carbon 32 pollution tax established in this chapter.

(9) The legislature recognizes the concern from imposing the 33 requirements of this chapter on energy-intensive, trade-exposed 34 industries in our state and the possibility that these requirements 35 might provide a comparative disadvantage to producers in unregulated 36 states or counties, leading to a migration of manufacturing to 37 unregulated states or countries and thereby generating 38 а 39 corresponding increase in greenhouse gas emissions, which would undermine the purposes of this chapter. Because of the concern of 40

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1 leakage, the department of ecology must provide a report to the 2 governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by July 3 30, 2026, with recommendations on imposing the requirements of this 4 chapter on energy-intensive, trade-exposed entities as identified in 5 section 3 of this act.

6 (10) This chapter establishes a carbon pollution tax to account 7 for a significant share of the economic and environmental impacts of 8 greenhouse gas emissions. The revenue from the tax will facilitate 9 the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy and fund investments 10 that will benefit our businesses, our families, and our communities.

11 (11) Furthermore, this act establishes a ten-year, climate 12 finance program that provides much needed additional capacity to invest in a just transition that protects our communities and our 13 economy from future disasters and builds the low-carbon future here 14 in Washington state. This finance program mandates that investment 15 16 decisions are made in a manner that provides accountability in government spending through a fiscally responsible bond program that 17 invests at scale in climate priorities and delivers maximum returns 18 19 in the forms of both economic activity and carbon pollution reduction. These investments will not only save Washington taxpayers 20 21 billions of dollars in avoidable future costs, but also foster growth 22 and stability for rural and urban communities alike, across diverse 23 economic sectors.

24 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. The definitions in this section apply 25 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires 26 otherwise.

(1) "Biogenic fuel" means any liquid or gaseous fuel that is nota fossil fuel.

29 (2) "Carbon calculation" means a calculation made by the 30 department of ecology, in consultation with the department of 31 commerce, for purposes of determining the carbon dioxide emissions 32 from the complete combustion or oxidation of fossil fuels for use in 33 calculating the tax imposed under section 3 of this act. The carbon 34 calculation also includes the life-cycle analysis of emissions 35 associated with such fuels.

36 (3) "Carbon content of fuels" means the greenhouse gas emissions37 generated by the combustion or oxidation of fuels.

1 (4) "Carbon dioxide equivalent" means a metric measure used to 2 compare the emissions of various greenhouse gases based on their 3 global warming potential.

4 (5) "Carbon pollution tax" means the tax created in section 3 of 5 this act.

6 (6) "Coal" means coal of any kind, including anthracite coal,
7 bituminous coal, subbituminous coal, lignite, waste coal, syncoal,
8 and coke of any kind.

(7) "Consumer price index" means, for any calendar year, that 9 year's annual average consumer price index, for Washington state, for 10 wage earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the bureau 11 12 of labor and statistics, United States department of labor. If the bureau of labor and statistics develops more than one consumer price 13 index for areas within the state, the index covering the greatest 14 number of people, covering areas exclusively within the boundaries of 15 16 the state, and including all items must be used for the adjustments 17 for inflation in this section.

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(8) "Department" means the department of revenue.

(9) "Direct access gas customer" means a person who purchases natural gas for consumption from any seller other than a seller registered with the department for purposes of paying taxes due under chapter 82.04 or 82.16 RCW.

(10) "Facility" means any physical property, plant, building, structure, source, or stationary equipment located on one or more contiguous or adjacent properties in actual physical contact or separated solely by a public roadway or other public right-of-way and under common ownership or common control, that emits or may emit any greenhouse gas.

(11) "Fossil fuel" means petroleum products, motor vehicle fuel, special fuel, aircraft fuel, natural gas, petroleum, coal, or any form of solid, liquid, or gaseous fuel derived from these products, including without limitation still gas, propane, and petroleum residuals including bunker fuel.

34 (12) "Fuel" means a fossil fuel or biogenic fuel. "Fuel" does not 35 include electricity.

36 (13) "Gas distribution business" has the same meaning as defined 37 in RCW 82.16.010.

38 (14) "Greenhouse gas" and "greenhouse gases" have the same 39 meaning as defined in RCW 70A.45.010. 1 (15) "Highly impacted community" means a community designated by 2 the department of health based on cumulative impact analyses 3 conducted under RCW 19.405.140, or a community located in a census 4 tract that is fully or partially located on "Indian country," as that 5 term is defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1151.

6 (16) "Light and power business" has the same meaning as defined 7 in RCW 82.16.010.

8 (17) "Motor vehicle fuel" has the same meaning as defined in RCW9 82.38.020.

10 (18) "Natural gas" means naturally occurring mixtures of 11 hydrocarbon gases and vapors consisting principally of methane, 12 whether in gaseous or liquid form, including methane clathrate.

13 (19) "Person" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 82.04.030.

14 (20) "Petroleum product" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 15 82.23A.010.

16 (21) "Special fuel" has the same meaning as defined in RCW17 82.38.020 and includes fuel that is sold or used to propel vessels.

18 (22) "Taxpayer" means a person subject to the carbon pollution 19 tax imposed under section 3 of this act.

20 (23) "Tribal lands" has the same meaning as "Indian country" as 21 provided in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1151, and also includes sacred sites, 22 traditional cultural properties, burial grounds, and other tribal 23 sites protected by federal or state law.

(24) "Vulnerable populations" means communities that experience a
 disproportionate cumulative risk from environmental burdens due to
 adverse socioeconomic factors and sensitivity factors.

(25) "Year" means the 12-month period commencing January 1st andending December 31st unless otherwise specified.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1)(a) Beginning January 1, 2023, a carbon pollution tax is imposed in the state at a rate of tax equal to \$25 per metric ton of greenhouse gas emissions. The tax rate automatically increases on January 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, at a rate of five percent per year, and is adjusted for inflation using the consumer price index.

35 (b) As of January 1, 2030, if the department of ecology, based on 36 data collected by the department on total fuels subject to the tax in 37 (a) of this subsection in the previous year, determines that the 38 sources of emissions covered by the tax are not predicted to achieve 39 their combined share of the emissions reductions necessary for the

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state to achieve the emissions limits established in RCW 70A.45.020, 1 the tax rate established in (a) of this subsection increases by \$10 2 effective as of January 1, 2031. Each year thereafter, the tax rate 3 continues to increase by five percent per year plus inflation, with 4 an additional increase of \$2 per year until the department of ecology 5 6 determines that the sources of emissions covered by the tax rate are expected to meet the limits established in RCW 70A.45.020, at which 7 point the additional \$2 per year increase is retired, and the annual 8 rate of increase returns to five percent plus inflation. Every two 9 years between the years 2030 and 2050, the 10 department, in consultation with the department of ecology, must reevaluate the 11 12 necessary tax rate to ensure the state achieves a goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. The department of ecology must make the 13 14 determinations required under this subsection (1)(b) and notify the department by April 1st of each odd-numbered year. 15

16 (2) The carbon pollution tax created under this section is 17 imposed on taxable persons for the following fossil fuels at the 18 following points of taxation:

(a) For motor vehicle fuel, in accordance with and at theintervals provided in chapter 82.38 RCW;

(b) For special fuel, in accordance with and at the intervals provided in chapter 82.38 RCW;

(c) For every other petroleum product, in accordance with and atthe intervals provided in chapter 82.23A RCW;

(d) For fossil fuels not listed elsewhere in this subsection, in accordance with chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW unless expressly provided otherwise in this section; and

(e) For fossil fuels consumed in refineries, in accordance withthe requirements of section 6 of this act.

30 (3) The carbon pollution tax created under this section is 31 imposed on taxable persons for the sale or use of natural gas as 32 follows:

(a) Natural gas transported through the state that is not produced or delivered in the state is exempt from the carbon pollution tax. Natural gas possessed or stored in the state is exempt from the carbon pollution tax unless the tax is otherwise applicable under (b), (c), or (d) of this subsection;

38 (b) For natural gas sold by a gas distribution business to a 39 retail customer in the state, the carbon pollution tax is imposed on

1 the gas distribution business upon the sale of such natural gas to 2 the retail customer;

3 (c) For natural gas sold to a light and power business for the 4 purpose of generating electricity in the state, the carbon pollution 5 tax is imposed on the gas distribution business upon the sale of such 6 natural gas to the light and power business; and

7 (d) For natural gas sold to a direct access gas customer in the 8 state, the carbon pollution tax is imposed on the direct access 9 customer upon the use of such natural gas by the direct access 10 customer.

11 (4) The department must determine the tax liability for each 12 taxable person by applying a carbon calculation using methodologies 13 adopted by the department of ecology as follows:

(a) For fossil fuels consumed in refineries, the department of 14 ecology must adopt by rule criteria for making the carbon calculation 15 16 in consultation with the department. The department of ecology must consider, among other information, the reports filed pursuant to 17 section 6 of this act. Among other resources, the department of 18 ecology must consider greenhouse gas content measurements for fossil 19 fuels from the United States energy information administration or the 20 21 United States environmental protection agency.

(b) For all other fossil fuels, the department of ecology, in consultation with the department, must adopt by rule criteria for making the carbon calculation.

(c) The department of ecology may require additional information from taxable persons as necessary for determining the carbon calculation under this subsection.

28 (5) The carbon pollution tax in this section is levied solely for the purposes of funding projects and activities that reduce 29 greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the environmental impacts of 30 31 greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. Therefore, 100 percent of receipts from the carbon pollution tax created under this section 32 must be deposited in the climate finance account created in section 33 10 of this act. The first and primary obligation of the receipts 34 deposited in the climate finance account created in section 10 of 35 this act is the timely repayment of any and all outstanding special 36 tax obligation bonds that have been issued under the climate finance 37 program authorized under section 10 of this act. Only after debt 38 39 service obligations have been satisfied can remaining moneys be 40 allocated from the climate finance account created in section 10 of

1 this act to the programs and activities authorized under the 2 greenhouse gas emissions reduction account created in section 17 of 3 this act and the natural climate solutions account created in section 4 18 of this act.

5 (6)(a) The carbon pollution tax created under this section may 6 not be applied to any fossil fuels upon which the tax has been 7 previously imposed.

8 (b) A sale of fossil fuel takes place in the state when the 9 fossil fuel is delivered to a purchaser or a person designated by the 10 purchaser, notwithstanding any contract terms designating a location 11 outside of this state as the place of sale.

12 (c) All sales within this state of a fossil fuel subject to the 13 carbon pollution tax must document the amount of carbon pollution tax 14 paid in accordance with requirements adopted by the department by 15 rule.

16 (d) Persons subject to the carbon pollution tax imposed under 17 this section must provide accounting and reporting to the department 18 relating to how the costs of the carbon pollution tax obligation are 19 passed on to consumers.

(7) (a) The department must adopt rules as necessary to implement 20 the carbon pollution tax created in this section. Using the carbon 21 22 calculations adopted by the department of ecology under subsection (4) of this section, the department must develop and make available 23 worksheets and guidance documents necessary to calculate the carbon 24 25 pollution tax for fossil fuels subject to the tax. Persons subject to 26 the carbon pollution tax imposed under this section must provide to the department information necessary to implement the tax, 27 in 28 accordance with requirements adopted by the department by rule.

(b) (i) To ensure consistency with the collection of the carbon pollution tax imposed under this section, the department of licensing must periodically provide data to the department pertaining to the tax collected under chapter 82.38 RCW.

33 (ii) The department may adopt joint rules and develop joint forms 34 with the department of licensing to impose the carbon pollution tax 35 on the fossil fuel portion of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel 36 taxed under chapter 82.38 RCW. The department may authorize the 37 department of licensing to collect the carbon pollution tax imposed 38 under this section on motor vehicle fuel and special fuel on the 39 department's behalf, and provide for the department of licensing to

deposit those funds in the climate finance account created in section
 10 of this act.

3 (8) By July 30, 2026, the department of ecology must provide a report to the legislature with recommendations on imposing the carbon 4 pollution tax created under this section on energy-intensive, trade-5 6 exposed entities, identified according to North American industry classification system code. The recommendations must include input 7 from individual energy-intensive, trade-exposed entities, allow for 8 growth, recognize and provide credit for early actions, recognize the 9 limits of best available control technology, allow for either 10 11 internal or external benchmarking, and include an analysis of 12 alternative fuels available that could feasibly be used in lieu of fossil fuels. 13

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 4. (1) The carbon pollution tax created under 15 section 3 of this act does not apply to:

16 (a) Electricity;

(b) Biogenic fuels, including biogas, which includes renewable
liquid natural gas or compressed natural gas made from biogas,
landfill gas, biodiesel, renewable diesel, and cellulosic ethanol;

(c) Fossil fuels brought into the state by means of the primary
 fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle, vessel, locomotive, or aircraft
 actively supplying fuel for combustion upon entry into the state;

(d) Fossil fuels upon which the state is prohibited from imposing a tax under the state Constitution or the Constitution or laws of the United States;

(e) Fossil fuels exported from this state. Export to Indian
country located within the boundaries of this state is not considered
export from this state. For the purposes of this subsection (1)(e),
"Indian country" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 37.12.160;

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(f) Coal transition power as defined in RCW 80.80.010;

(g) (i) Motor vehicle fuel or special fuel that is used exclusively for agricultural purposes by a farm fuel user. This exemption is available only if a buyer of motor vehicle fuel or special fuel provides the seller with an exemption certificate in a form and manner prescribed by the department. For the purposes of this subsection (1)(g), "agricultural purposes" and "farm fuel user" have the same meanings as provided in RCW 82.08.865;

38 (ii) The department must determine a method for expanding the 39 exemption provided under this subsection (1)(g) to include fuels used 1 for the purpose of transporting agricultural products on public 2 highways. The department must maintain this expanded exemption for a 3 period of five years, in order to provide the agricultural sector 4 with a feasible transition period;

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(h) Aircraft fuel as defined in RCW 82.42.010;

6 (i) The portion of fossil fuels purchased in the state and 7 combusted outside the state by interstate motor carriers and vessels 8 used primarily in interstate or foreign commerce. The department must 9 provide a methodology by rule to apportion fossil fuels consumed 10 inside the state of Washington by interstate motor carriers and 11 vessels used primarily in interstate or foreign commerce;

(j) Activities or property of Indian tribes and individual Indians that are exempt from state imposition of a tax as a matter of federal law or state law, whether by statute, rule, or compact; and

(k) (i) Motor vehicle fuel or special fuel that is used by the following: (A) Log transportation businesses; and (B) persons in the business of extracting timber. This exemption is available only if a buyer of motor vehicle fuel or special fuel provides the seller with an exemption certificate in a form and manner prescribed by the department.

(ii) For the purposes of this subsection (1)(k), the following definitions apply: (A) "Log transportation business" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.16.010; and (B) "timber" means forest trees, standing or down, on privately owned or publicly owned land, and does not include Christmas trees that are cultivated by agricultural methods or short-rotation hardwoods as defined in RCW 84.33.035.

(iii) The department must determine a method for expanding the exemption provided under this subsection (1)(k) to include fuels used for the purpose of transporting forest products on public highways. The department must maintain this expanded exemption for a period of five years, in order to provide the forest products sector with a feasible transition period.

(2) (a) For any fossil fuels subject to the carbon pollution tax 34 created in section 3 of this act that are also subject to a 35 comparable carbon pollution tax or charge on carbon content imposed 36 another jurisdiction, including the federal government, 37 by or allowances required to be purchased by another jurisdiction, the 38 39 taxpayer may take a credit against the carbon pollution tax imposed 40 under this chapter equal to the amount of the tax or charge paid to

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1 the other jurisdiction, up to the amount of tax owed under this 2 chapter, provided that the person claiming the credit provides 3 evidence acceptable to the department that the equivalent tax or 4 charge has been paid.

5 (b) For the purposes of this subsection, a comparable carbon 6 pollution tax or charge means a tax or charge that is:

7 (i) Imposed on the sale, use, possession, transfer, or 8 consumption of fossil fuels generated through the combustion of 9 fossil fuels; or

10 (ii) Measured in terms of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from 11 the complete combustion or oxidation of fossil fuels.

12 (3) (a) A person is entitled to a refund or credit of the tax on 13 the carbon content of fuels included in the price of fossil fuels 14 purchased by the person if:

(i) An exemption provided under this section applies to theperson or the person's use or disposition of the fossil fuels; and

(ii) The person submits an application to the department in a form and manner required by the department within four years after the calendar year in which the person paid the taxes for which the refund or credit is sought.

(b) Refunds or credits of the tax on the carbon content of fuels are not subject to interest.

23 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 5. The provisions of chapter 82.32 RCW apply 24 to this chapter. If there is a conflict between a provision of this 25 chapter and a provision of chapter 82.32 RCW, the provision of this 26 chapter controls.

27 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 6. (1) Persons consuming fossil fuels in 28 refineries must file with the department and the department of 29 ecology:

(a) A fuel use report similar to the United States environmental
 protection agency facility level information on greenhouse gases tool
 report containing their fossil fuel greenhouse gas emissions; and

33 (b) Such other information as the department of ecology may 34 require by rule.

35 (2)(a) The department may adopt by rule a day each month by which 36 the information specified in subsection (1) of this section must be 37 submitted to the department for the previous calendar month, together 38 with the tax calculated thereon based on the tax tables adopted by

1 the department and the department of ecology. The tax on the carbon 2 content reported must be paid to the department within 15 days of the 3 filing required by subsection (1) of this section.

4 (b) The rules adopted by the department under this section may 5 allow a refinery to file an interim report based on estimates 6 together with an estimated payment based thereon and then file a 7 final report at a later date specified by the department. The 8 department must impose interest and penalties on underpayments in 9 accordance with the requirements of chapter 82.32 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. (1) On or before December 31, 2024, and on 10 or before December 31st of each even-numbered year thereafter, and in 11 compliance with RCW 43.01.036, the department of commerce, with 12 support from the department, must submit a report to the governor and 13 the legislature as required by this subsection. The initial report 14 15 must include recommendations for establishing a process to audit uses 16 of the accounts created in sections 17 and 18 of this act. The report must contain recommendations for modifications or improvements to 17 this act to ensure the goals of this act are being met, in addition 18 to the following with respect to the act's implementation for the 19 20 period since the last report:

(a) The total carbon pollution taxes collected during the reporting period and a list of the taxpayers and the amount of carbon pollution tax paid by those taxpayers. The department must provide the information required under this subsection (1)(a), which is not confidential information under RCW 82.32.330;

(b) Estimated costs incurred by the department, the department of commerce, and the department of ecology, directly associated with administration of the carbon pollution tax, shown both in dollar amounts and as a percentage of the total amount of carbon pollution tax revenues collected;

31 (c) Impacts to the economic health of Washington state, including 32 verifiable data on job creation, economic activity, avoided costs, 33 financial risk management, and cobenefits generated by the investment 34 of these revenues;

35 (d) A summary of the investments made through the climate bond 36 proceeds account created in section 14 of this act, the greenhouse 37 gas emissions reduction account created in section 17 of this act, 38 and the natural climate solutions account created in section 18 of 39 this act. The summary must include amounts invested in each program 1 area, project descriptions, names of grant recipients, an estimate of 2 the greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved or anticipated via 3 the investments, and other pertinent information or information as 4 periodically requested by the legislature; and

5 (e) An environmental justice analysis that reports on 6 environmental, health, and economic impacts on highly impacted 7 communities and vulnerable populations from climate impacts and state 8 measures taken to meet Washington's greenhouse gas emissions limits, 9 including the tax and investments authorized by this act.

10 (2) The department of commerce must provide information on its 11 website regarding the impacts of the carbon pollution tax under this 12 chapter on the price of electricity, natural gas, and vehicle fuels 13 by sector.

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. (1) The directors of the department, the 15 department of ecology, department of commerce, department of 16 licensing, and the secretary of the department of transportation must 17 adopt such rules as necessary for the implementation and proper 18 administration of this chapter and may coordinate concerning the 19 process, timelines, and documentation related to the rule making, as 20 necessary.

21 (2) By December 1, 2022, the department of ecology, in 22 consultation with the department, must adopt a rule providing for the 23 carbon calculation required under section 3(4) of this act. The 24 department must rely on the rule adopted by the department of ecology 25 for purposes of imposing and administering the tax.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. (1) It is the intent of the legislature that each year the total investments made through the climate bond proceeds account created in section 14 of this act, the greenhouse gas emissions reduction account created in section 17 of this act, and the natural climate solutions account created in section 18 of this act achieve the following:

32 (a) At least 35 percent of total investments authorized under 33 this chapter must provide direct and meaningful benefits to 34 vulnerable populations within the boundaries of highly impacted 35 communities, as designated by the department of health under RCW 36 19.405.140; and

37 (b) At least 10 percent of the total investments authorized under38 this chapter must be used for programs, activities, or projects

1 formally supported by a resolution of an Indian tribe, with priority 2 given to otherwise qualifying projects directly administered or 3 proposed by an Indian tribe. An investment that meets the 4 requirements of both this subsection (1)(b) and (a) of this 5 subsection may count toward the requisite minimum percentage for both 6 subsections.

7 (2) The expenditure of moneys under this chapter must be 8 consistent with applicable federal, state, and local laws, and treaty 9 rights including, but not limited to, prohibitions on uses of funds 10 imposed by the state Constitution.

11 (3) For the purposes of this section, "benefits" means 12 investments or activities that:

(a) Reduce vulnerable population characteristics, environmental
 burdens, or associated risks that contribute significantly to the
 cumulative impact designation of highly impacted communities;

16 (b) Meaningfully protect a highly impacted community from, or 17 support community response to, the impacts of air pollution or 18 climate change; or

(c) Meet a community need identified by vulnerable members of the community that is consistent with the intent of this chapter.

21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. The climate finance account is created in 22 the state treasury. One hundred percent of all receipts from the 23 carbon pollution tax created in section 3 of this act must be 24 deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only 25 after appropriation.

(1) Moneys in the account must be used first and foremost for the 26 27 payment of principal and interest on bonds authorized in section 11 of this act. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 28 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount needed 29 30 in the ensuing 12 months to meet the bond retirement and interest 31 requirements on the bonds authorized under section 11 of this act. 32 The state finance committee may provide that special subaccounts be created in the account to facilitate payment of the principal and 33 34 interest on the bonds.

35 (2) On July 1st of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer 36 from the climate finance account to the climate bonds retirement 37 account an amount equal to the amount certified by the state finance 38 committee in this section.

1 (3) (a) Moneys remaining in the climate finance account after the transfer made pursuant to subsection (2) of this section may be used 2 only for projects and programs that achieve the purposes of the 3 carbon pollution tax as provided under section 3(5) of this act. 4 Moneys in the account as described in this subsection must first be 5 6 appropriated for the administration of the requirements of this chapter, in an amount not to exceed five percent of the total receipt 7 of funds from the carbon pollution tax imposed under section 3 of 8 this act. Beginning July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the state 9 treasurer shall distribute funds in the account as follows: 10

(i) Seventy-five percent of the moneys to the greenhouse gas emissions reduction account created in section 17 of this act; and

13 (ii) Twenty-five percent of the moneys to the natural climate 14 solutions account created in section 18 of this act.

15 (b) The allocations specified in (a)(i) and (ii) of this 16 subsection must be reviewed by the legislature on a biennial basis 17 based on the changing needs of the state in meeting its clean economy 18 and greenhouse gas reduction goals in a timely, economically 19 advantageous, and equitable manner.

20 <u>NEW SECTION</u>. Sec. 11. (1) The state finance committee is authorized to issue special tax obligation bonds of the state of 21 22 Washington in amounts not to exceed the sum of \$4,943,000,000, or as much thereof as may be required, payable from receipts from the 23 24 carbon pollution tax created in section 3 of this act deposited in the climate finance account created in section 10 of this act, to 25 finance project categories as described under sections 17 and 18 of 26 27 this act, and all costs incidental thereto.

(2) Bonds authorized in this section may be sold at such price as
the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds authorized in
this section may be offered for sale without prior legislative
appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

32 (3) The state finance committee may determine and include in any 33 resolution authorizing the issuance of any bonds authorized by this 34 chapter such terms, provisions, covenants, and conditions as it may 35 deem appropriate in order to assist with the marketing and sale of 36 the bonds, confer rights upon the owners of bonds, and safeguard 37 rights of the owners of bonds, including, among other things:

1 (a) Provisions that the bonds shall be payable solely from and 2 secured solely by the carbon pollution tax revenues received in the 3 climate finance account created in section 10 of this act;

4 (b) The conditions that must be satisfied prior to the issuance 5 of any additional bonds that are to be payable from and secured by 6 the carbon pollution tax revenues received in the climate finance 7 account created in section 10 of this act on equal basis with 8 previously issued and outstanding bonds payable from carbon pollution 9 tax revenues received in the climate finance account created in 10 section 10 of this act;

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(c) Provisions regarding reserves and credit enhancements;

12 (d) Whether bonds may be issued as tax-exempt bonds or must be 13 issued as taxable bonds under the applicable provisions of the 14 federal internal revenue code; and

(e) Whether the state will pursue third-party certification of 15 16 bonds authorized by this chapter as green bonds, climate bonds, or 17 any other appropriate certification that the state finance committee 18 determines will increase marketability or minimize the cost of the bonds. Regardless of whether the state pursues third-party 19 certification, bond proceeds must be used for projects that produce 20 21 measurable climate mitigation or adaptation benefits.

22 Sec. 12. (1) The special tax obligation bonds NEW SECTION. authorized by this chapter may be issued for a period not to exceed 23 24 10 years. The authorization to issue bonds provided under section 11 of this act does not expire until the full authorization has been 25 issued and disbursed, or until the end of the 10-year period, 26 27 whichever occurs first. The state finance committee may choose to 28 decrease the period of issuance based on updated forecasts and fiscal needs, but any increase in the period of issuance beyond the 10-year 29 30 period authorized under this section requires the approval of the 31 legislature.

32 (2) On a quarterly basis, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036, 33 the state treasurer may submit a report to the legislature that 34 provides recommendations on the level of issuances over the 10-year 35 period based on updated revenue forecasts, market factors, and fiscal 36 needs. No bond issuance may be structured such that debt service 37 obligations remain past December 31, 2050.

1 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 13. Bonds authorized under this chapter are not a general obligation of the state and the full faith, credit, and 2 taxing powers of the state are not pledged for their payment. Each 3 bond issued under the authority of this chapter shall distinctly 4 state that payment or redemption of the bond and payment of the 5 6 interest and any premium thereon is payable solely from and secured 7 solely by a pledge of the carbon pollution tax revenues received in the climate finance account created in section 10 of this act, and is 8 not a general obligation of the state. The legislature pledges to 9 appropriate the carbon pollution tax revenues pledged to the payment 10 11 of the bonds issued under this chapter. The state finance committee shall include this pledge and agreement of the state to owners of any 12 bonds issued under this chapter. The owner of any bond or the trustee 13 14 of the owner of any of the bonds may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require the transfer and payment of pledged funds as 15 16 directed in this section.

17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. The climate bond proceeds account is created in the state treasury. The proceeds from the sale of bonds 18 authorized in section 11 of this act must be deposited in the 19 20 account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation and only for project categories as described under sections 17 and 18 21 of this act and for the payment of expenses incurred in the issuance 22 23 and sale of the bonds. If the state finance committee deems it 24 necessary to issue the bonds authorized in section 11 of this act as 25 taxable bonds in order to comply with federal internal revenue service rules and regulations pertaining to the use of nontaxable 26 27 bond proceeds, the proceeds of such taxable bonds must be deposited 28 into the climate taxable bond account. The state treasurer shall submit written notice to the director of financial management if it 29 30 is determined that any such transfer to the climate taxable bond 31 account is necessary.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 15. The climate bonds retirement account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account must be used only for the payment of principal and interest on bonds authorized in section 11 of this act. The state finance committee may provide that special subaccounts be created in the account to facilitate payment of the principal and interest on the bonds. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the 1 state treasurer the amount needed in the ensuing 12 months to meet 2 the bond retirement and interest requirements on the bonds authorized 3 in section 11 of this act.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 16. The state finance committee may issue 4 5 bonds to refund outstanding bonds issued under this chapter, including the payment of any redemption premiums on the bonds and any 6 interest accrued to or to accrue to the first redemption date after 7 delivery of the refunding bonds. The proceeds of the refunding bonds 8 may, at the discretion of the committee, be applied to the purchases 9 10 or payment at maturity of the bonds to be refunded, or the redemption of the outstanding bonds on the first redemption date after delivery 11 of the refunding bonds and may, until so used, be placed in escrow to 12 13 be applied to the purchase, retirement, or redemption. Refunding bonds issued under this section must be issued and secured in the 14 15 manner provided by the state finance committee.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. (1) The greenhouse gas emissions reduction account is created in the state treasury. The account must 17 receive moneys distributed to the account from the climate finance 18 account created in section 10 of this act. Moneys in the account may 19 be spent only after appropriation. Moneys in the account must be used 20 by the department of commerce and the department of transportation 21 22 for projects and incentive programs that yield verifiable reductions 23 in greenhouse gas emissions in excess of baseline practices. A 24 minimum of 75 percent of the funds available in the account must be 25 directed toward the transportation investments provided in (h)(i) through (iv) of this subsection. Projects and programs eligible for 26 27 funding from the account must be physically located in Washington state and include, but are not limited to, the following: 28

29 Supplementing the growth management planning (a) and environmental review fund established in RCW 36.70A.490 for the 30 purpose of making grants or loans to local governments for the 31 purposes set forth in RCW 43.21C.240, 43.21C.031, 36.70A.500, and 32 36.70A.600, for costs associated with RCW 36.70A.610, and to cover 33 34 costs associated with the adoption of optional elements of comprehensive plans consistent with RCW 43.21C.420; 35

36 (b) Programs, activities, or projects that deploy renewable 37 energy resources, such as solar and wind power, and projects to deploy distributed generation, energy storage, demand-side
 technologies and strategies, and other grid modernization projects;

3 (c) Programs, activities, or projects that increase the energy 4 efficiency or reduce greenhouse gas emissions of industrial 5 facilities including, but not limited to, proposals to implement 6 combined heat and power, district energy, or on-site renewables, such 7 as solar and wind power, to upgrade the energy efficiency of existing 8 equipment, to reduce process emissions, and to switch to less 9 emissions intensive fuel sources;

10 (d) Programs, activities, or projects that achieve energy 11 efficiency or emissions reductions in the agricultural sector 12 including fertilizer management, soil management, bioenergy, and 13 biofuels;

(e) Programs, activities, or projects that increase energy efficiency in new and existing buildings, or that promote low-carbon architecture, including use of newly emerging alternative building materials that result in a lower carbon footprint in the built environment over the life cycle of the building and component building materials;

(f) Programs, activities, or projects that promote the
electrification and decarbonization of new and existing buildings,
including residential, commercial, and industrial buildings;

(g) Programs, activities, or projects that improve energy efficiency, including district energy, and investments in market transformation of energy efficiency products; and

(h) Programs, activities, or projects that reduce greenhouse gas
 emissions or mitigate the impact of greenhouse gas emissions from the
 transportation sector including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) The deployment of clean alternative fuel vehicle charging andrefueling infrastructure;

31 (ii) The support of clean alternative fuel car sharing programs 32 to provide clean alternative fuel vehicle use opportunities to 33 underserved communities and low to moderate-income members of the 34 workforce not readily served by transit, or located in transportation 35 corridors with emissions that exceed federal or state emissions 36 standards;

37 (iii) The provision of financing assistance to facilitate the 38 purchase of battery and fuel cell electric vehicles by lower income 39 residents of the state; 1 (iv) The provision of grants to transit authorities in the state to fund cost-effective capital projects that reduce the carbon 2 3 intensity of the Washington transportation system including, but not limited to, electrification vehicle fleets, modification 4 or replacement of capital facilities in order to facilitate fleet 5 6 electrification or hydrogen refueling, upgrades to electrical transmission and distribution systems, and construction of charging 7 and fueling stations; 8

9 (v) The electrification and decarbonization of the state's 10 passenger ferry fleet; and

(vi) The conversion to battery or fuel cell electric fleets for the state, counties, cities, and public transit agencies.

13 (2) Public entities including, but not limited to, state 14 agencies, municipal corporations, and federally recognized Indian 15 tribes, as well as private entities, both not-for-profit and for-16 profit, subject to constitutional limitations, are eligible to 17 receive greenhouse gas emissions reduction account funds authorized 18 by this section.

(3) Projects, activities, and programs must meet criteria to be established by the department of transportation, for transportation investments, and the department of commerce, for all other investments. In developing criteria, the department of transportation and department of commerce may contract with the Washington academy of sciences established under chapter 70A.40 RCW for independent expertise.

(4) Projects or activities funded under this section should meet
 high labor standards, including family level wages, providing
 benefits including health care and pensions, and maximize access to
 economic benefits from such projects for local workers and diverse
 businesses.

31 (5) Funding may be provided for incremental greenhouse gas 32 emissions reductions from projects that have already secured funding, 33 but which can achieve more emissions reductions with additional 34 resources.

35 (6) Recipients of funding for projects must submit to the 36 department of commerce or department of transportation, as 37 appropriate, a progress report at a date or dates to be determined by 38 the department of commerce and department of transportation. The 39 progress report must contain information as may be required by the 40 department of commerce and department of transportation by rule.

1 (7) The department of commerce and department of transportation project funding contracts, monitor 2 must design project implementation, and track contract performance, to actively assist 3 the project proponent in securing the expected project outcomes. The 4 department of commerce may suspend or terminate funding when projects 5 6 do not achieve projected reductions as provided in the funding agreement and, in cases of gross misuse of funds, may require a 7 return of grant funding. 8

9 (8) The department of commerce and department of transportation 10 must develop an electronic database available to the public to track 11 projects and incentive programs receiving funding under this section. 12 Projects must be ranked and sortable based on quantitative 13 performance metrics, including the avoided cost of a ton of carbon 14 dioxide equivalents.

15 (9) The department of commerce and department of transportation 16 must develop implementation plans for providing funding under this 17 section. The implementation plans must be provided to the climate 18 oversight board created in section 20 of this act, as well as to the 19 governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by 20 December 31, 2022.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. (1) The natural climate solutions account 21 22 is created in the state treasury. All moneys directed to the account from the climate finance account created in section 10 of this act 23 24 must be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Moneys in the account are intended to 25 increase the resilience of the state's waters, forests, and other 26 27 vital ecosystems to the impacts of climate change, as well as 28 increase their carbon pollution reduction capacity through sequestration, storage, and overall ecosystem integrity. Moneys in 29 30 the account must be spent in a manner that is consistent with 31 existing and future assessments of climate risks and resilience from 32 the scientific community and expressed concerns of and impacts to highly impacted communities, as designated by the department of 33 health under RCW 19.405.140. 34

35 (2) Moneys in the account may be allocated for the following 36 purposes:

37 (a) Clean water investments that improve resilience from climate38 impacts. Funding under this subsection (2) (a) must be used to:

1 (i) Restore and protect estuaries, fisheries, and marine 2 shoreline habitats, and prepare for sea level rise including, but not 3 limited to, making fish passage correction investments such as those 4 identified in the cost-share barrier removal program for small forest 5 landowners created in RCW 76.13.150 and those that are considered by 6 the fish passage barrier removal board created in RCW 77.95.160;

7 (ii) Increase the ability to remediate and adapt to the impacts8 of ocean acidification;

9 (iii) Reduce flood risk and restore natural floodplain ecological 10 function;

(iv) Increase the sustainable supply of water and improve aquatic habitat, including groundwater mapping and modeling;

(v) Improve infrastructure treating stormwater from previously developed areas within an urban growth boundary designated under chapter 36.70A RCW, with a preference given to projects that use green stormwater infrastructure; or

(vi) Preserve or increase carbon sequestration and storage benefits in agricultural soils and timber stock consistent with RCW 70A.45.090.

20 (b) Healthy forest investments to improve resilience from climate 21 impacts. Funding under this subsection (2)(b) must be used for 22 projects and activities that will:

(i) Increase resilience to wildfire in the face of increasedseasonal temperatures and drought; or

(ii) Improve forest health and reduce vulnerability to changes in hydrology, insect infestation, and other impacts of climate change.

(3) Moneys in the account may not be used for projects that would violate tribal treaty rights or result in significant long-term damage to critical habitat or ecological functions. Investments from this account must result in long-term environmental benefits and increased resilience to the impacts of climate change.

32 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 19. The environmental justice council 33 established under chapter . . . (Senate Bill No. 5141), Laws of 2021 34 must:

(1) Prepare recommendations for and provide oversight of the impacts of the carbon pollution tax created under section 3 of this act and associated programs established under this act affecting lowincome populations, vulnerable populations, and highly impacted communities; (2) Define environmental justice progress indicators for this
 chapter, including:

3 (a) The elimination of oil, natural gas, coal, and other 4 materials emitting carbon dioxide, black carbon, methane, nitrogen 5 oxides, and fluorinated gases imported into Washington state or 6 extracted within the state;

7 (b) The elimination of the emissions attributable to consumption 8 in Washington state, emitted outside Washington state;

9 (c) The air quality, water quality, and land and buildings free 10 from toxins associated with fossil fuels;

(d) The elimination of environmental health disparities that disproportionately impact households that are Black, indigenous, and people of color, or in areas that are highly impacted communities; and

15 (e) The reduction of economic inequality and elimination of 16 poverty and the prevalence of livelihoods and high-road employment 17 opportunities accessible to all; and

18 (3) Define and provide instruction on meaningful consultation 19 with vulnerable populations and low-income populations and provide 20 opportunities for vulnerable populations to consult on the 21 implementation of this chapter.

22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 20. (1) The climate oversight board is 23 created within the office of the governor. The climate oversight 24 board consists of:

25 (a) The governor or the governor's designee;

26 (b) The state commissioner of public lands or the commissioner's 27 designee;

(c) The state auditor or the auditor's designee;

29 (d) The state insurance commissioner or the commissioner's 30 designee;

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(e) The state treasurer or the treasurer's designee;

32 (f) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the 33 senate, one from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate;

34 (g) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the 35 speaker of the house of representatives, one from each of the two 36 largest caucuses of the house of representatives; and

37 (h) The following members, to be appointed by the governor:

38 (i) Two members selected by federally recognized tribes within 39 the state of Washington; (ii) Three members from highly impacted communities, one
 representing a statewide environmental justice organization;

3 (iii) Members representing stationary emissions sources, the 4 transportation fuels sector, the electricity and gas distribution 5 sectors, renewable energy production, and climate action 6 organizations; and

7 (iv) Persons with economic, environmental, and energy expertise
8 and experience in greenhouse gas emissions reductions policies and
9 programs.

10 (2) Members of the climate oversight board are appointed for 11 four-year terms. The climate oversight board must select a chair from 12 among its members. All state agencies must provide information and 13 assistance as requested by the board in order to perform its 14 responsibilities.

(3) The climate oversight board is responsible for ongoing review of the implementation of the carbon pollution tax and funding from the revenues of the tax to ensure the fairest, most equitable, most efficient, and timely achievement of the objectives in this chapter. The board's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Reviewing the plans for implementing the funding programsauthorized in sections 17 and 18 of this act;

(b) Reviewing the criteria for funding allocations and project award decisions;

(c) Reviewing project and activity funding decisions as well as
 summary reports and information regarding implementing projects;

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(d) Reviewing implementation progress reports by agencies;

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(e) Reviewing compliance with consultation requirements; and

(f) Providing recommendations for standards by which to measure emissions reductions outcomes from investments of funds under this act.

(4) The climate oversight board may conduct some or all of its
 responsibilities jointly with the environmental justice council
 established under chapter . . . (Senate Bill No. 5141), Laws of 2021.

34 (5) The climate oversight board may contract with the Washington 35 academy of sciences established under chapter 70A.40 RCW for 36 independent evaluative expertise in its review of the performance of 37 the programs, activities, and projects provided for in this chapter 38 in meeting this chapter's objectives.

39 (6) Legislative members of the climate oversight board are 40 reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

6 (7) Beginning July 1, 2022, the climate oversight board must meet 7 at least quarterly. The climate oversight board must submit a 8 biennial report with its findings and recommendations to the 9 appropriate committees of the legislature no later than December 1st 10 of each even-number year beginning in 2024.

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(8) The climate oversight board has no appropriation authority.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 21. All definitions in section 2 of this act 13 apply throughout sections 9 through 20 of this act unless the context 14 clearly requires otherwise.

15 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 22. This chapter may be known and cited as 16 the Washington sustainable transformative recovery opportunities for 17 the next generation act.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. As of the effective date of this section, 19 chapter 173-442 WAC and associated amendments to chapter 173-442 WAC previously adopted by the department of ecology may not be enforced 20 21 by the department of ecology. If the tax imposed under this chapter 22 is invalidated, the department of ecology is directed to use the full 23 extent of its authority to regulate sources of greenhouse gas 24 emissions under chapter 70A.15 RCW to help achieve the limits 25 specified in RCW 70A.45.020.

26 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 24. If any provision of this act or its 27 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the 28 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other 29 persons or circumstances is not affected.

30 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 25. The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and 31 82.32.808 do not apply to this act.

32 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 26. Sections 1 through 8 of this act 33 constitute a new chapter in Title 82 RCW.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 27. Sections 9 through 23 of this act
 constitute a new chapter in Title 70A RCW.

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