
HOUSE BILL 1697

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer, Fitzgibbon, and Fey; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/26/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the expiration date of tax
2 preferences for commute trip reduction programs; amending RCW
3 82.70.900; creating a new section; providing an effective date;
4 providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This section is the tax preference
7 performance statement for the commute trip reduction business and
8 occupation tax credit in section 2 of this act. The performance
9 statement is only intended to be used for subsequent evaluation of
10 the tax preference. It is not intended to create a private right of
11 action by any party or be used to determine eligibility for
12 preferential tax treatment.

13 (1) The legislature categorizes this tax preference as one
14 intended to induce certain designated behaviors by taxpayers as
15 indicated in RCW 82.32.808(2)(a).

16 (2) It is the legislature's specific public policy objective to
17 continue encouraging businesses to provide financial incentives to
18 their employees who participate in the commute trip reduction program
19 that reduces single-occupancy vehicle travel in Washington.

20 (3) To measure the effectiveness of the exemptions in section 2
21 of this act in achieving the public policy objectives described in

1 subsection (2) of this section, the joint legislative audit and
2 review committee must evaluate the number of taxpayers that claim the
3 credit, the number of participating worksites, and the number of
4 participating employees in commute trip reduction programs.

5 (4) If a review finds that the number of participating worksites
6 or number of participating employees in commute trip reduction
7 programs grows an average of three percent per year from July 1,
8 2015, through June 30, 2018, the legislature intends to extend the
9 expiration date of the tax preference.

10 (5) The joint legislative audit and review committee may use data
11 from the department of revenue, the department of transportation
12 commute trip reduction program, and any other data it deems necessary
13 in performing the evaluation under subsection (3) of this section.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.70.900 and 2014 c 222 s 707 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 This chapter expires June 30, ((2015)) 2020.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
19 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
20 effect July 1, 2015.

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