HOUSE BILL 2006

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By Representative McEntire

AN ACT Relating to incorporating working families fiscal impacts in fiscal notes; amending RCW 43.88A.010; and adding a new section to chapter 43.88A RCW.

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

5 Sec. 1. RCW 43.88A.010 and 1977 ex.s. c 25 s 1 are each amended 6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature hereby recognizes the necessity of developing a uniform and coordinated procedure for determining the expected 8 fiscal impact of bills and resolutions on state government. The 9 10 legislature also recognizes that developing such statements of fiscal 11 impact, which shall be known as fiscal notes, requires the 12 designation of a state agency to be principally responsible therefor.

13 (2) The legislature also recognizes the value of considering the 14 impact of bills and resolutions on working families. A working 15 families fiscal impact statement must be included in fiscal notes 16 when required under section 2 of this act.

17 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.88A 18 RCW to read as follows:

(1) (a) For purposes of this chapter, a working families fiscalimpact statement is: (i) A written supplemental statement in a fiscal

note that includes an estimate of the impact that proposed legislation has on a working family; and (ii) contained only in the narrative explanation of the fiscal note and not reflected in the fiscal impact calculation required by RCW 43.88A.020.

(b) "Working families" are households that have a total annual 5 6 income of \$150,000 or less per year. The office of financial management must adjust this amount for inflation according to the 7 implicit price deflator at least every five years. The working 8 families fiscal impact is the annual total of applicable costs or 9 savings to working families, as determined according 10 to the methodology established in subsection (2) of this section, divided by 11 12 the estimated number of working families in this state.

13 (c) A working families fiscal impact statement must include a 14 narrative and data to explain the assumptions that were used in 15 computing the working families fiscal impact statement.

16 (d)(i) For fiscal notes prepared for the 2023 legislative 17 session, working families fiscal impact statements must analyze how 18 the fiscal impact calculation for revenue and fee provisions in the 19 proposed legislation impact working families.

(ii) For fiscal notes prepared for the 2024 session and thereafter, working families fiscal impact statements must also include the estimated impacts on working families from proposed legislation estimated to affect prices charged to consumers by businesses because of revenue and fee provisions that affect businesses or because of the regulatory effects of the legislation on business or labor.

27 (2) By September 1, 2022, the office of financial management, in 28 consultation with the economic and revenue forecast council, the department of revenue, and the caseload forecast council, must 29 establish the process and methodology for working family impact 30 31 statements under subsection (1)(d)(i) of this section. By September 32 1, 2023, the office of financial management, in consultation with the 33 economic and revenue forecast council, the department of revenue, and the caseload forecast council, must establish the process and 34 methodology for working family impact statements to add impacts under 35 subsection (1)(d)(ii) of this section. The methodology must address 36 impacts on working families including, but not limited to, state 37 38 taxes and other government-established charges, such as utility fees, 39 industrial insurance, and other payroll withholding, and user fees.

1 (3) A fiscal note is not required to include a working families 2 fiscal impact statement unless: (a) The fiscal note reflects a total 3 positive or negative state revenue impact of more than \$10,000,000 4 per fiscal year; or (b) the proposed legislation is broad-based 5 business or labor regulatory legislation likely to exceed \$10,000,000 6 per year in impact on business.

7 (4) Working family fiscal impact statements are not required to be updated when a bill or resolution is substantively amended and 8 there is insufficient time to revise the working families fiscal 9 impact estimate without delaying the new fiscal note on the amended 10 11 legislation. If the office of financial management determines that a 12 substantive amendment to a bill or resolution would likely affect the working families fiscal impact statement and there is insufficient 13 time to revise the estimate, the working families fiscal impact 14 statement must be removed from any fiscal note that reflects the 15 16 amendment.

17 (5) The office of financial management must develop an electronic 18 means for persons to identify all fiscal notes that have working 19 family fiscal impact statements and provide an electronic link to 20 those fiscal notes. Beginning in 2024, the office of financial 21 management will enable persons to identify and access working family 22 fiscal impact statements from previous years.

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