

HB 2502 - DIGEST

Provides that, if a public or private business, club, charitable bingo hall, cigar store, or hookah lounge can document an economic loss of ten percent or more of the gross revenue for thirty days, it may apply to the department of revenue for a waiver of RCW 70.160.030. If the business can show a decline of ten percent or more and the other requirements under this act are met, the waiver must be granted. The waiver may be granted for the entire building or for a section of the building such as a smoking room.

Provides that health departments may not issue fines or take other legal actions based solely on a reported violation of chapter 70.160 RCW. The health department employee must witness the violation and it must be shown by clear and convincing evidence that the business owner or designated employee has made no attempt to comply with this chapter.