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HOUSE BILL 1543

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Buri, Grant, Dunshee, Ahern, Hailey, Pettigrew, Kretz, Bailey, Linville and Moeller

Read first time 01/22/2007.      Referred to Committee on Community & Economic Development & Trade.

1            AN ACT Relating to financing economic development officers; and  
2 amending RCW 82.14.370.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 82.14.370 and 2004 c 130 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The legislative authority of a rural county may impose a sales  
7 and use tax in accordance with the terms of this chapter. The tax is  
8 in addition to other taxes authorized by law and shall be collected  
9 from those persons who are taxable by the state under chapters 82.08  
10 and 82.12 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within the  
11 county. The rate of tax shall not exceed 0.08 percent of the selling  
12 price in the case of a sales tax or value of the article used in the  
13 case of a use tax, except that for rural counties with population  
14 densities between sixty and one hundred persons per square mile, the  
15 rate shall not exceed 0.04 percent before January 1, 2000.

16            (2) The tax imposed under subsection (1) of this section shall be  
17 deducted from the amount of tax otherwise required to be collected or  
18 paid over to the department of revenue under chapter 82.08 or 82.12

1 RCW. The department of revenue shall perform the collection of such  
2 taxes on behalf of the county at no cost to the county.

3 (3)(a) Moneys collected under this section shall only be used to  
4 finance public facilities serving economic development purposes in  
5 rural counties and economic development officers. The public facility  
6 must be listed as an item in the officially adopted county overall  
7 economic development plan, or the economic development section of the  
8 county's comprehensive plan, or the comprehensive plan of a city or  
9 town located within the county for those counties planning under RCW  
10 36.70A.040. For those counties that do not have an adopted overall  
11 economic development plan and do not plan under the growth management  
12 act, the public facility must be listed in the county's capital  
13 facilities plan or the capital facilities plan of a city or town  
14 located within the county.

15 (b) In implementing this section, the county shall consult with  
16 cities, towns, and port districts located within the county and the  
17 associate development organization serving the county to ensure that  
18 the expenditure meets the goals of chapter 130, Laws of 2004 and the  
19 requirements of (a) of this subsection. Each county collecting money  
20 under this section shall report to the office of the state auditor, no  
21 later than October 1st of each year, a list of new projects from the  
22 prior fiscal year, showing that the county has used the funds for those  
23 projects consistent with the goals of chapter 130, Laws of 2004 and the  
24 requirements of (a) of this subsection. Any projects financed prior to  
25 June 10, 2004, from the proceeds of obligations to which the tax  
26 imposed under subsection (1) of this section has been pledged shall not  
27 be deemed to be new projects under this subsection.

28 (c) (~~For the purposes of this section,~~) The definitions in this  
29 subsection apply throughout this section.

30 (i) "Public facilities" means bridges, roads, domestic and  
31 industrial water facilities, sanitary sewer facilities, earth  
32 stabilization, storm sewer facilities, railroad, electricity, natural  
33 gas, buildings, structures, telecommunications infrastructure,  
34 transportation infrastructure, or commercial infrastructure, and port  
35 facilities in the state of Washington(~~and~~).

36 (ii) "Economic development purposes" means those purposes which  
37 facilitate the creation or retention of businesses and jobs in a  
38 county.

1        (iii) "Economic development officer" means a person employed by a  
2 county or an associate development organization as defined in RCW  
3 43.330.010, who promotes economic development purposes within the  
4 county.

5        (4) No tax may be collected under this section before July 1, 1998.  
6 No tax may be collected under this section by a county more than  
7 twenty-five years after the date that a tax is first imposed under this  
8 section.

9        (5) For purposes of this section, "rural county" means a county  
10 with a population density of less than one hundred persons per square  
11 mile or a county smaller than two hundred twenty-five square miles as  
12 determined by the office of financial management and published each  
13 year by the department for the period July 1st to June 30th.

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