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HOUSE BILL 3177

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers and Dunshee

Read first time 01/23/08. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to membership of the state expenditure limit  
2 committee; and amending RCW 43.135.025.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.135.025 and 2005 c 72 s 4 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The state shall not expend from the general fund and related  
7 funds during any fiscal year state moneys in excess of the state  
8 expenditure limit established under this chapter.

9            (2) Except pursuant to a declaration of emergency under RCW  
10 43.135.035 or pursuant to an appropriation under RCW 43.135.045(~~(+4)~~)  
11 (2)(b), the state treasurer shall not issue or redeem any check,  
12 warrant, or voucher that will result in a state general fund or related  
13 fund expenditure for any fiscal year in excess of the state expenditure  
14 limit established under this chapter. A violation of this subsection  
15 constitutes a violation of RCW 43.88.290 and shall subject the state  
16 treasurer to the penalties provided in RCW 43.88.300.

17            (3) The state expenditure limit for any fiscal year shall be the  
18 previous fiscal year's state expenditure limit increased by a  
19 percentage rate that equals the fiscal growth factor.

1 (4) For purposes of computing the state expenditure limit for the  
2 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, the phrase "the previous fiscal  
3 year's state expenditure limit" means the total state expenditures from  
4 the state general fund and related funds, not including federal funds,  
5 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, plus the fiscal growth  
6 factor.

7 (5) A state expenditure limit committee is established for the  
8 purpose of determining and adjusting the state expenditure limit as  
9 provided in this chapter. The members of the state expenditure limit  
10 committee are the director of financial management(~~(, the attorney~~  
11 ~~general or the attorney general's designee,~~) and the chairs and  
12 ranking minority members of the senate committee on ways and means and  
13 the house of representatives committee on appropriations. All actions  
14 of the state expenditure limit committee taken pursuant to this chapter  
15 require an affirmative vote of at least (~~four~~) three members.

16 (6) Each November, the state expenditure limit committee shall  
17 adjust the expenditure limit for the preceding fiscal year based on  
18 actual expenditures and known changes in the fiscal growth factor and  
19 then project an expenditure limit for the next two fiscal years. If,  
20 by November 30th, the state expenditure limit committee has not adopted  
21 the expenditure limit adjustment and projected expenditure limit as  
22 provided in subsection (5) of this section, the (~~attorney general or~~  
23 ~~his or her designee~~) director of financial management shall adjust or  
24 project the expenditure limit, as necessary.

25 (7) "Fiscal growth factor" means the average growth in state  
26 personal income for the prior ten fiscal years.

27 (8) "General fund" means the state general fund.

28 (9) "Related fund" means the health services account, violence  
29 reduction and drug enforcement account, public safety and education  
30 account, water quality account, or student achievement fund.

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