
SENATE BILL 5660

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senator Haugen

Read first time 01/26/2007. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to rural county authority to fund certain power
2 line conversions with sales and use tax collections; and amending RCW
3 82.14.370.

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

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

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

17 (2) The tax imposed under subsection (1) of this section shall be
18 deducted from the amount of tax otherwise required to be collected or

1 paid over to the department of revenue under chapter 82.08 or 82.12
2 RCW. The department of revenue shall perform the collection of such
3 taxes on behalf of the county at no cost to the county.

4 (3)(a) Moneys collected under this section shall only be used to
5 finance public facilities serving economic development purposes in
6 rural counties. The public facility must be listed as an item in the
7 officially adopted county overall economic development plan, or the
8 economic development section of the county's comprehensive plan, or the
9 comprehensive plan of a city or town located within the county for
10 those counties planning under RCW 36.70A.040. For those counties that
11 do not have an adopted overall economic development plan and do not
12 plan under the growth management act, the public facility must be
13 listed in the county's capital facilities plan or the capital
14 facilities plan of a city or town 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, (i) "public facilities" means
29 bridges, roads, domestic and industrial water facilities, sanitary
30 sewer facilities, earth stabilization, storm sewer facilities,
31 railroad, electricity, the conversion of above ground power lines to
32 underground power lines, natural gas, buildings, structures,
33 telecommunications infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, or
34 commercial infrastructure, and port facilities in the state of
35 Washington; and (ii) "economic development purposes" means those
36 purposes which facilitate the creation or retention of businesses and
37 jobs in a county.

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

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

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