ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1821

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Thomas, Mulliken, Bush, Zellinsky, Kastama, Sullivan, Wensman, Carrell and Schoesler

Read first time 02/10/97. Referred to Committee on Finance.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to consolidating business and occupation tax rates
- 2 into fewer categories; amending RCW 48.14.080, 82.04.240, 82.04.250,
- 3 82.04.255, 82.04.270, 82.04.290, 82.04.293, 82.04.440, and 82.04.4452;
- 4 reenacting and amending RCW 82.04.260; adding a new section to chapter
- 5 82.04 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW 82.04.055; and
- 6 providing an effective date.
- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 48.14.080 and 1993 sp.s. c 25 s 602 are each amended
- 9 to read as follows:
- 10 As to insurers, other than title insurers and taxpayers under RCW
- 11 48.14.0201, the taxes imposed by this title shall be in lieu of all
- 12 other taxes, except taxes on real and tangible personal property,
- 13 excise taxes on the sale, purchase or use of such property, and the tax
- 14 imposed in RCW 82.04.260($(\frac{(15)}{)}$) (14).
- 15 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 82.04 RCW
- 16 to read as follows:
- 17 This chapter does not apply to amounts received from buying wheat,
- 18 oats, dry peas, dry beans, lentils, triticale, canola, corn, rye, and

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- 1 barley, but not including any manufactured or processed products
- 2 thereof, and selling the same at wholesale.
- 3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.04.240 and 1993 sp.s. c 25 s 102 are each amended 4 to read as follows:
- 5 Upon every person except persons taxable under RCW 82.04.260 (1),
- 6 (2), (3), (4), $((\frac{5}{1}))$ (6), (7), or (8)($(\frac{5}{1})$) engaging within
- 7 this state in business as a manufacturer; as to such persons the amount
- 8 of the tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of
- 9 the products, including byproducts, manufactured, multiplied by the
- 10 rate of 0.484 percent.
- 11 The measure of the tax is the value of the products, including
- 12 byproducts, so manufactured regardless of the place of sale or the fact
- 13 that deliveries may be made to points outside the state.
- 14 Sec. 4. RCW 82.04.250 and 1993 sp.s. c 25 s 103 are each amended
- 15 to read as follows:
- 16 (1) Upon every person except persons taxable under RCW
- 17 82.04.260(((8))) (7) or subsection (2) of this section engaging within
- 18 this state in the business of making sales at retail, as to such
- 19 persons, the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal
- 20 to the gross proceeds of sales of the business, multiplied by the rate
- 21 of 0.471 percent.
- 22 (2) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of
- 23 making sales at retail that are exempt from the tax imposed under
- 24 chapter 82.08 RCW by reason of RCW 82.08.0261, 82.08.0262, or
- 25 82.08.0263, as to such persons, the amount of tax with respect to such
- 26 business shall be equal to the gross proceeds of sales of the business,
- 27 multiplied by the rate of 0.484 percent.
- 28 **Sec. 5.** RCW 82.04.255 and 1996 c 1 s 1 are each amended to read as
- 29 follows:
- 30 Upon every person engaging within the state as a real estate
- 31 broker; as to such persons, the amount of the tax with respect to such
- 32 business shall be equal to the gross income of the business, multiplied
- 33 by the rate of $((\frac{1.75}{1.5}))$ 1.5 percent.
- 34 The measure of the tax on real estate commissions earned by the
- 35 real estate broker shall be the gross commission earned by the
- 36 particular real estate brokerage office including that portion of the

commission paid to salesmen or associate brokers in the same office on 1 a particular transaction: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That where a real estate 2 commission is divided between an originating brokerage office and a 3 4 cooperating brokerage office on a particular transaction, 5 brokerage office shall pay the tax only upon their respective shares of said commission: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That where the brokerage office 6 has paid the tax as provided herein, salesmen or associate brokers 7 8 within the same brokerage office shall not be required to pay a similar tax upon the same transaction. 9

- 10 **Sec. 6.** RCW 82.04.260 and 1996 c 148 s 2 and 1996 c 115 s 1 are 11 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- (1) ((Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of buying wheat, oats, dry peas, dry beans, lentils, triticale, canola, corn, rye and barley, but not including any manufactured or processed products thereof, and selling the same at wholesale; the tax imposed shall be equal to the gross proceeds derived from such sales multiplied by the rate of 0.011 percent.

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- (2))) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of manufacturing wheat into flour, barley into pearl barley, soybeans into soybean oil, canola into canola oil, canola meal, or canola byproducts, or sunflower seeds into sunflower oil; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of the flour, pearl barley, oil, canola meal, or canola byproduct manufactured, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent.
- $((\frac{3}{3}))$ (2) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of splitting or processing dried peas; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of the peas split or processed, multiplied by the rate of $((\frac{0.275}{0.138}))$ 0.138 percent.
 - ((4))) (3) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of manufacturing seafood products which remain in a raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state at the completion of the manufacturing by that person; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of the products manufactured, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent.
- (((+5))) (4) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of manufacturing by canning, preserving, freezing, processing, or dehydrating fresh fruits and vegetables, or selling at wholesale

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fresh fruits and vegetables canned, preserved, frozen, processed, or dehydrated by the seller and sold to purchasers who transport in the ordinary course of business the goods out of this state; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of the products canned, preserved, frozen, processed, or dehydrated multiplied by the rate of ((0.33)) 0.138 percent. As proof of sale to a person who transports in the ordinary course of business goods out of this state, the seller shall annually provide a statement in a form prescribed by the department and retain the statement as a business record.

((+6))) (5) Upon every nonprofit corporation and nonprofit association engaging within this state in research and development, as to such corporations and associations, the amount of tax with respect to such activities shall be equal to the gross income derived from such activities multiplied by the rate of 0.484 percent.

((+7)) (6) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of slaughtering, breaking and/or processing perishable meat products and/or selling the same at wholesale only and not at retail; as to such persons the tax imposed shall be equal to the gross proceeds derived from such sales multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent.

((+8))) (7) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of making sales, at retail or wholesale, of nuclear fuel assemblies manufactured by that person, as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross proceeds of sales of the assemblies multiplied by the rate of 0.275 percent.

((+9))) (8) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of manufacturing nuclear fuel assemblies, as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the value of the products manufactured multiplied by the rate of 0.275 percent.

 $((\frac{10}{10}))$ Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of acting as a travel agent or tour operator; as to such persons the amount of the tax with respect to such activities shall be equal to the gross income derived from such activities multiplied by the rate of 0.275 percent.

 $((\frac{(11)}{(11)}))$ (10) Upon every person engaging within this state in business as an international steamship agent, international customs house broker, international freight forwarder, vessel and/or cargo

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agent; as to such persons the amount of the tax with respect to only 2 3 international activities shall be equal to the gross income derived 4 from such activities multiplied by the rate of ((0.363)) 0.275 percent. 5 $((\frac{12}{12}))$ (11) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of stevedoring and associated activities pertinent to the 6 7 movement of goods and commodities in waterborne interstate or foreign 8 commerce; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such 9 business shall be equal to the gross proceeds derived from such 10 activities multiplied by the rate of ((0.363)) 0.275 percent. Persons subject to taxation under this subsection shall be exempt from payment 11 of taxes imposed by chapter 82.16 RCW for that portion of their 12 business subject to taxation under this subsection. Stevedoring and 13 associated activities pertinent to the conduct of goods and commodities 14 15 in waterborne interstate or foreign commerce are defined as all 16 activities of a labor, service or transportation nature whereby cargo 17 may be loaded or unloaded to or from vessels or barges, passing over, onto or under a wharf, pier, or similar structure; cargo may be moved 18 19 to a warehouse or similar holding or storage yard or area to await 20 further movement in import or export or may move to a consolidation freight station and be stuffed, unstuffed, containerized, separated or 21 otherwise segregated or aggregated for delivery or loaded on any mode 22 of transportation for delivery to its consignee. Specific activities 23 24 included in this definition are: Wharfage, handling, loading, 25 unloading, moving of cargo to a convenient place of delivery to the 26 consignee or a convenient place for further movement to export mode; documentation services in connection with the receipt, delivery, 27 checking, care, custody and control of cargo required in the transfer 28 29 of cargo; imported automobile handling prior to delivery to consignee; 30 terminal stevedoring and incidental vessel services, including but not 31 limited to plugging and unplugging refrigerator service to containers, trailers, and other refrigerated cargo receptacles, and securing ship 32 hatch covers. 33 34

charter broker in foreign commerce, and/or international air cargo

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(((13))) (<u>12)</u> Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of disposing of low-level waste, as defined in RCW 43.145.010; as to such persons the amount of the tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross income of the business, excluding any fees imposed under chapter 43.200 RCW, multiplied by the rate of 3.3 percent.

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If the gross income of the taxpayer is attributable to activities both within and without this state, the gross income attributable to this state shall be determined in accordance with the methods of apportionment required under RCW 82.04.460.

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- (((14))) (13) Upon every person engaging within this state as an insurance agent, insurance broker, or insurance solicitor licensed under chapter 48.17 RCW; as to such persons, the amount of the tax with respect to such licensed activities shall be equal to the gross income of such business multiplied by the rate of ((0.55)) 0.484 percent.
- 10 $((\frac{15}{15}))$ <u>(14)</u> Upon every person engaging within this state in business as a hospital, as defined in chapter 70.41 RCW, that is 11 12 operated as a nonprofit corporation or by the state or any of its 13 political subdivisions, as to such persons, the amount of tax with respect to such activities shall be equal to the gross income of the 14 15 business multiplied by the rate of 0.75 percent through June 30, 1995, and 1.5 percent thereafter. The moneys collected under this subsection 16 17 shall be deposited in the health services account created under RCW 43.72.900. 18
- 19 **Sec. 7.** RCW 82.04.270 and 1994 c 124 s 2 are each amended to read 20 as follows:
 - (1) Upon every person except persons taxable under ((subsections (1) or (8) of)) RCW 82.04.260(7) or section 2 of this act engaging within this state in the business of making sales at wholesale; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross proceeds of sales of such business multiplied by the rate of 0.484 percent.
- (2) The tax imposed by this section is levied and shall be 27 collected from every person engaged in the business of distributing in 28 29 this state articles of tangible personal property, owned by them from 30 their own warehouse or other central location in this state to two or more of their own retail stores or outlets, where no change of title or 31 32 ownership occurs, the intent hereof being to impose a tax equal to the 33 wholesaler's tax upon persons performing functions essentially comparable to those of a wholesaler, but not actually making sales. 34 The tax designated in this section may not be assessed twice to the 35 36 same person for the same article. The amount of the tax as to such persons shall be computed by multiplying 0.484 percent of the value of 37 the article so distributed as of the time of such distribution. 38

- department of revenue shall prescribe uniform and equitable rules for the purpose of ascertaining such value, which value shall correspond as nearly as possible to the gross proceeds from sales at wholesale in this state of similar articles of like quality and character, and in similar quantities by other taxpayers. Delivery trucks or vans will not under the purposes of this section be considered to be retail stores or outlets.
- 8 **Sec. 8.** RCW 82.04.290 and 1996 c 1 s 2 are each amended to read as 9 follows:
- (1) ((Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of providing selected business services other than or in addition to those enumerated in RCW 82.04.250 or 82.04.270; as to such persons the amount of tax on account of such activities shall be equal to the gross income of the business multiplied by the rate of 2.0 percent.

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- (2) Upon every person engaging within this state in banking, loan, security, investment management, investment advisory, or other financial businesses, other than or in addition to those enumerated in subsection (3) of this section; as to such persons, the amount of the tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross income of the business, multiplied by the rate of 1.6 percent.
- (3)) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business of providing international investment management services, as to such persons, the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross income or gross proceeds of sales of the business multiplied by a rate of 0.275 percent.
- (((4))) (2) Upon every person engaging within this state in any business activity other than or in addition to those enumerated in RCW 82.04.230, 82.04.240, 82.04.250, 82.04.255, 82.04.260, 82.04.270, and 82.04.280, and subsection((s)) (1)(($\frac{1}{1}$, and (3))) of this section; as to such persons the amount of tax on account of such activities shall be equal to the gross income of the business multiplied by the rate of $((\frac{1.75}{1}))$ 1.5 percent.
 - This section includes, among others, and without limiting the scope hereof (whether or not title to materials used in the performance of such business passes to another by accession, confusion or other than by outright sale), persons engaged in the business of rendering any type of service which does not constitute a "sale at retail" or a "sale at wholesale." The value of advertising, demonstration, and

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- 1 promotional supplies and materials furnished to an agent by his
- 2 principal or supplier to be used for informational, educational and
- 3 promotional purposes shall not be considered a part of the agent's
- 4 remuneration or commission and shall not be subject to taxation under
- 5 this section.

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- 6 **Sec. 9.** RCW 82.04.293 and 1995 c 229 s 1 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
- 8 For purposes of RCW $82.04.290((\frac{3}{3}))$ (1):
- 9 (1) A person is engaged in the business of providing international investment management services, if:
- 11 (a) Such person is engaged primarily in the business of providing 12 investment management services; and
- (b) At least ten percent of the gross income of such person is derived from providing investment management services to any of the following: (i) Persons or collective investment funds residing outside the United States; or (ii) persons or collective investment funds with at least ten percent of their investments located outside the United States.
- 19 (2) "Investment management services" means investment research, 20 investment consulting, portfolio management, fund administration, fund 21 distribution, investment transactions, or related investment services.
 - (3) "Collective investment fund" includes:
- (a) A mutual fund or other regulated investment company, as defined in section 851(a) of the internal revenue code of 1986, as amended;
- (b) An "investment company," as that term is used in section 3(a) of the investment company act of 1940, as well as any entity that would be an investment company for this purpose but for the exemptions contained in section 3(c)(1) or (11);
- 29 (c) An "employee benefit plan," which includes any plan, trust, 30 commingled employee benefit trust, or custodial arrangement that is subject to the employee retirement income security act of 1974, as 31 32 amended, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 1001 et seq., or that is described in sections 125, 401, 403, 408, 457, and 501(c)(9) and (17) through (23) of the 33 34 internal revenue code of 1986, as amended, or a similar plan maintained by a state or local government, or a plan, trust, or custodial 35 36 arrangement established to self-insure benefits required by federal, state, or local law; 37

- 1 (d) A fund maintained by a tax-exempt organization, as defined in 2 section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code of 1986, as amended, for 3 operating, quasi-endowment, or endowment purposes;
- 4 (e) Funds that are established for the benefit of such tax-exempt 5 organizations, such as charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead 6 trusts, charitable annuity trusts, or other similar trusts; or
- 7 (f) Collective investment funds similar to those described in (a) 8 through (e) of this subsection created under the laws of a foreign 9 jurisdiction.
- 10 (4) Investments are located outside the United States if the 11 underlying assets in which the investment constitutes a beneficial 12 interest reside or are created, issued or held outside the United 13 States.
- 14 **Sec. 10.** RCW 82.04.440 and 1994 c 124 s 4 are each amended to read 15 as follows:
- (1) Every person engaged in activities which are within the purview of the provisions of two or more of sections RCW 82.04.230 to 82.04.290, inclusive, shall be taxable under each paragraph applicable to the activities engaged in.
- taxable under RCW 20 Persons 82.04.250, 82.04.270, $82.04.260((\frac{7}{)}))$ (6) with respect to selling products in this state 21 22 shall be allowed a credit against those taxes for any (a) manufacturing 23 taxes paid with respect to the manufacturing of products so sold in 24 this state, and/or (b) extracting taxes paid with respect to the 25 extracting of products so sold in this state or ingredients of products so sold in this state. Extracting taxes taken as credit under 26 subsection (3) of this section may also be taken under this subsection, 27 if otherwise allowable under this subsection. The amount of the credit 28 29 shall not exceed the tax liability arising under this chapter with respect to the sale of those products. 30
- (3) Persons taxable under RCW 82.04.240 or 82.04.260 ((subsection (4+))) (3) shall be allowed a credit against those taxes for any extracting taxes paid with respect to extracting the ingredients of the products so manufactured in this state. The amount of the credit shall not exceed the tax liability arising under this chapter with respect to the manufacturing of those products.
- 37 (4) Persons taxable under RCW 82.04.230, 82.04.240, or ((subsection 38 (2), (3), (4), (5), or (7) of RCW)) 82.04.260 (1), (2), (3), (4), or

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- (6) with respect to extracting or manufacturing products in this state 1 shall be allowed a credit against those taxes for any (i) gross 2 receipts taxes paid to another state with respect to the sales of the 3 products so extracted or manufactured in this state, (ii) manufacturing 4 taxes paid with respect to the manufacturing of products using 5 ingredients so extracted in this state, or (iii) manufacturing taxes 6 7 paid with respect to manufacturing activities completed in another 8 state for products so manufactured in this state. The amount of the 9 credit shall not exceed the tax liability arising under this chapter 10 with respect to the extraction or manufacturing of those products.
- 11 (5) For the purpose of this section:
- 12 (a) "Gross receipts tax" means a tax:
- (i) Which is imposed on or measured by the gross volume of business, in terms of gross receipts or in other terms, and in the determination of which the deductions allowed would not constitute the tax an income tax or value added tax; and
- 17 (ii) Which is also not, pursuant to law or custom, separately 18 stated from the sales price.
- (b) "State" means (i) the state of Washington, (ii) a state of the United States other than Washington, or any political subdivision of such other state, (iii) the District of Columbia, and (iv) any foreign country or political subdivision thereof.
- (c) "Manufacturing tax" means a gross receipts tax imposed on the act or privilege of engaging in business as a manufacturer, and includes (i) the taxes imposed in RCW 82.04.240 and ((subsections (2), (3), (4), (5), and (7) of RCW)) 82.04.260 (1), (2), (3), (4), and (6), and (ii) similar gross receipts taxes paid to other states.
- (d) "Extracting tax" means a gross receipts tax imposed on the act or privilege of engaging in business as an extractor, and includes the tax imposed in RCW 82.04.230 and similar gross receipts taxes paid to other states.
- (e) "Business", "manufacturer", "extractor", and other terms used in this section have the meanings given in RCW 82.04.020 through 82.04.212, notwithstanding the use of those terms in the context of describing taxes imposed by other states.
- 36 **Sec. 11.** RCW 82.04.4452 and 1994 sp.s. c 5 s 2 are each amended to 37 read as follows:

(1) In computing the tax imposed under this chapter, a credit is allowed for each person whose research and development spending during the year in which the credit is claimed exceeds 0.92 percent of the person's taxable amount during the same calendar year.

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- (2) The credit is equal to the greater of the amount of qualified research and development expenditures of a person or eighty percent of amounts received by a person other than a public educational or research institution in compensation for the conduct of qualified research and development, multiplied by the rate ((of 0.515 percent)) provided in RCW 82.04.260(5) in the case of a nonprofit corporation or nonprofit association engaging within this state in research and development, and ((2.5 percent)) the rate provided in RCW 82.04.290(2) for every other person.
- (3) Any person entitled to the credit provided in subsection (2) of this section as a result of qualified research and development conducted under contract may assign all or any portion of the credit to the person contracting for the performance of the qualified research and development.
- (4) The credit, including any credit assigned to a person under subsection (3) of this section, shall be taken against taxes due for the same calendar year in which the qualified research and development expenditures are incurred. The credit, including any credit assigned to a person under subsection (3) of this section, for each calendar year shall not exceed the lesser of two million dollars or the amount of tax otherwise due under this chapter for the calendar year.
- (5) Any person taking the credit, including any credit assigned to a person under subsection (3) of this section, whose research and development spending during the calendar year in which the credit is claimed fails to exceed 0.92 percent of the person's taxable amount during the same calendar year shall be liable for payment of the additional taxes represented by the amount of credit taken together with interest, but not penalties. Interest shall be due at the rate provided for delinquent excise taxes retroactively to the date the credit was taken until the taxes are paid. Any credit assigned to a person under subsection (3) of this section that is disallowed as a result of this section may be taken by the person who performed the qualified research and development subject to the limitations set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

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- (6) Any person claiming the credit, and any person assigning a credit as provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall file an affidavit form prescribed by the department which shall include the 4 amount of the credit claimed, an estimate of the anticipated qualified research and development expenditures during the calendar year for which the credit is claimed, an estimate of the taxable amount during the calendar year for which the credit is claimed, and such additional information as the department may prescribe.
- 9 (7) A person claiming the credit shall agree to supply the 10 department with information necessary to measure the results of the tax credit program for qualified research and development expenditures. 11
- (8) The department shall use the information required under 12 13 subsection (7) of this section to perform three assessments on the tax credit program authorized under this section. The assessments will 14 15 take place in 1997, 2000, and 2003. The department shall prepare reports on each assessment and deliver their reports by September 1, 16 17 1997, September 1, 2000, and September 1, 2003. The assessments shall measure the effect of the program on job creation, the number of jobs 18 19 created for Washington residents, company growth, the introduction of 20 new products, the diversification of the state's economy, growth in research and development investment, the movement of firms or the 21 consolidation of firms' operations into the state, and such other 22 23 factors as the department selects.
 - (9) For the purpose of this section:

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- 25 "Qualified research and development expenditures" means 26 operating expenses, including wages, compensation of a proprietor or a 27 partner in a partnership as determined under rules adopted by the department, benefits, supplies, and computer expenses, directly 28 incurred in qualified research and development by a person claiming the 29 30 credit provided in this section. The term does not include amounts paid to a person other than a public educational or research 31 institution to conduct qualified research and development. 32 33 the term include capital costs and overhead, such as expenses for land, structures, or depreciable property. 34
- 35 (b) "Qualified research and development" shall have the same meaning as in RCW 82.63.010. 36
- (c) "Research and development spending" means qualified research 37 38 and development expenditures plus eighty percent of amounts paid to a

- person other than a public educational or research institution to conduct qualified research and development. 2
- 3 (d) "Taxable amount" means the taxable amount subject to the tax 4 imposed in this chapter required to be reported on the person's combined excise tax returns during the year in which the credit is 5
- claimed, less any taxable amount for which a credit is allowed under 6
- 7 RCW 82.04.440.

sections.

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- 8 (10) This section shall expire December 31, 2004.
- 9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. This act does not affect any existing right acquired or liability or obligation incurred under the sections amended 10 or repealed in this act or under any rule or order adopted under those 11 sections, nor does it affect any proceeding instituted under those 12
- 14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. RCW 82.04.055 and 1993 sp.s. c 25 s 201 are 15 each repealed.
- 16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. This act takes effect July 1, 1998.

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