
HOUSE BILL 2941

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Delvin, Hankins, Grant and Kessler

Read first time 02/11/2002. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a special impact mitigation assistance
2 program to offset the impact of the construction of a nuclear waste
3 treatment and immobilization plant; adding a new section to chapter
4 82.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.99 RCW; creating a new
5 section; and providing an effective date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the fiscal impact
8 the proposed nuclear waste treatment and immobilization plant at
9 Hanford will have on local government operations from the influx of
10 thousands of workers constructing the plant. The legislature further
11 recognizes that the facility will be located on federal land, which is
12 exempt from property taxation. Therefore, the local governments have
13 limited tax sources to offset these increased costs. It is the intent
14 of the legislature to create a special impact mitigation assistance
15 program funded by a portion of the state business and occupation tax
16 collected from the prime contractor on the construction of the project.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 82.32 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 (1) As provided in subsection (2) of this section, the business and
2 occupation tax imposed under chapter 82.04 RCW and remitted by the
3 prime contractor responsible for the construction and/or commissioning
4 of a nuclear waste treatment and immobilization plant shall be
5 deposited into the nuclear waste mitigation account created in section
6 3 of this act.

7 (2)(a) Beginning July 1, 2002, and ending no later than December
8 31, 2012, the department shall, on a quarterly basis, transmit the tax
9 proceeds under subsection (1) of this section to the state treasurer
10 who shall deposit them into the nuclear waste mitigation account.

11 (b) Distributions under this section may not exceed two million
12 dollars in any one year. Total distributions may not exceed ten
13 million dollars.

14 (c) The distribution under this section shall be made based on an
15 estimate of the tax remitted to the department by the prime contractor
16 that is attributable to the contract for construction and/or
17 commissioning of a nuclear waste treatment and immobilization plant.
18 The estimate shall be done using information obtained from the United
19 States department of energy and from the affected taxpayer.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.99 RCW
21 to read as follows:

22 The nuclear waste mitigation account is created in the custody of
23 the state treasurer. Receipts from section 2 of this act must be
24 deposited into the account. The state treasurer shall annually
25 distribute the money in the account to the county or counties where
26 construction takes place. Money received by a county or counties must
27 be distributed by the county or counties to local governments using a
28 formula devised by the Hanford communities organization, created
29 pursuant to interlocal agreement under chapter 39.34 RCW. Only the
30 state treasurer may authorize the annual distributions from this
31 account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter
32 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.
33 Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 43.84.092, investment earnings on
34 the funds shall be deposited into the nuclear waste mitigation account.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2002.

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