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HOUSE BILL 2214

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Takko and Springer

Read first time 01/14/14. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to the training of code enforcement officials; and  
2 adding new sections to chapter 49.04 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** (1) Statewide training for code officials is  
5 an essential element in the health and vitality of the state's  
6 construction industry. The recent downturn in the economy has resulted  
7 in staff reductions in many local code enforcement offices. With the  
8 expected retirement of other senior code officials, there will be a  
9 substantial need for training of new code officials as well as  
10 continuing training for existing officials. As the economy of the  
11 state of Washington improves, it is imperative to have well-trained  
12 building inspectors throughout our communities in order to assure  
13 timely and consistent inspections so that our construction economy can  
14 recover at the most expeditious rate.

15            (2) Because of these issues, the state of Washington approved the  
16 creation of the code officials apprenticeship program. Local  
17 jurisdictions are less able to consistently pay for and send staff to  
18 training in central locations without compromising service levels. The

1 legislature finds that support for technical training and the code  
2 officials apprenticeship and training program will provide:

3 (a) Consistent training for code officials for all jurisdictions;

4 (b) Greater uniformity of enforcement of building codes;

5 (c) Education on the implementation of the new energy and green  
6 construction codes;

7 (d) Equal access for all jurisdictions to training essential to the  
8 efficient and effective discharge of the regulatory function;

9 (e) A reduction of the employment cost burden of local  
10 jurisdictions; and

11 (f) Leverage, when possible, of training dollars by taking  
12 advantage of the economy of scale presented by a central, organized  
13 training curriculum using economies of scale and potential grant funds  
14 to supplement code official training.

15 (3) It is the intent of this act to assure that our construction  
16 industry and local communities have assurance that code officials have  
17 access to current training on the most recent code updates.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is imposed a fee of two dollars on  
19 each building permit issued by a county or a city. The building permit  
20 must be the same type of permit on which a fee may be imposed under RCW  
21 19.27.085(3). Quarterly, each county and city must remit moneys  
22 collected under this section to the state treasury; however, no  
23 remittance is required until a minimum of fifty dollars has accumulated  
24 pursuant to this subsection.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Revenue collected under section 2 of this  
26 act must be appropriated to the department of revenue for distribution  
27 to the sponsor of an apprenticeship program for building officials for  
28 the following purposes:

29 (1) Expenses related to the establishment and operation of a code  
30 official apprenticeship program;

31 (2) Administrative expenses of the joint apprenticeship training  
32 committee for the code official apprenticeship program; and

33 (3) Expenses related to training programs for code officials  
34 provided by public or private entities.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    The code officials apprenticeship and  
2 training account is created in the state treasury. All receipts from  
3 section 2 of this act must be deposited in the account. Moneys in the  
4 account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the  
5 account may be used only as provided in section 3 of this act.

6        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each  
7 added to chapter 49.04 RCW.

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