
SENATE BILL 5447

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Van De Wege and Warnick; by request of Department of Agriculture

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the dairy milk assessment fee to
2 June 30, 2025; amending RCW 15.36.551; and providing an expiration
3 date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 15.36.551 and 2015 1st sp.s. c 5 s 1 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 There is levied on all milk processed in this state an assessment
8 not to exceed fifty-four one-hundredths of one cent per
9 hundredweight. The director shall determine, by rule, an assessment,
10 that with contribution from the general fund, will support an
11 inspection program to maintain compliance with the provisions of the
12 pasteurized milk ordinance of the national conference on interstate
13 milk shipment. All assessments shall be levied on the operator of the
14 first milk processing plant receiving the milk for processing. This
15 shall include milk processing plants that produce their own milk for
16 processing and milk processing plants that receive milk from other
17 sources. Milk processing plants whose monthly assessment for receipt
18 of milk totals less than twenty dollars in any given month are
19 exempted from paying this assessment for that month. All moneys
20 collected under this section shall be paid to the director by the
21 twentieth day of the succeeding month for the previous month's

1 assessments. The director shall deposit the funds into the dairy
2 inspection account hereby created within the agricultural local fund
3 established in RCW 43.23.230. The funds shall be used only to provide
4 inspection services to the dairy industry. If the operator of a milk
5 processing plant fails to remit any assessments, that sum shall be a
6 lien on any property owned by him or her, and shall be reported by
7 the director and collected in the manner and with the same priority
8 over other creditors as prescribed for the collection of delinquent
9 taxes under chapters 84.60 and 84.64 RCW.

10 This section expires June 30, (~~2020~~) 2025.

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