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HOUSE BILL 1902

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Phillips, Horn, Pruitt, Rust, Valle, Brekke and Sprenkle.

Read first time February 14, 1991.      Referred to Committee on Environmental Affairs.

1            AN ACT Relating to clean-fuel vehicles; amending RCW 70.120.020;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 82.44 RCW; adding new sections to  
3 chapter 70.120 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.19 RCW; adding  
4 new sections to chapter 80.28 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter  
5 70.94 RCW.

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

7            **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.120.020 and 1989 c 240 s 5 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9            (1) The department shall conduct ~~((the following programs in a~~  
10 ~~manner that will enhance the successful implementation of the air~~  
11 ~~pollution control system established for motor vehicles by this~~  
12 ~~chapter:~~

13            ~~(a) A voluntary motor vehicle emissions inspection program;~~

14            ~~(b))~~ a public educational program regarding the health effects of  
15 air pollution emitted by motor vehicles; the purpose, operation, and

1 effect of emission control devices and systems; and the effect that  
2 proper maintenance of motor vehicle engines has on fuel economy and air  
3 pollution emission(~~(+and~~

4 ~~(+e))~~ and a public notification program identifying the geographic  
5 areas of the state that are designated as being noncompliance areas and  
6 emission contributing areas and describing the requirements imposed  
7 under this chapter for those areas.

8 (2)(a) The department(~~(, the superintendent of public instruction,~~  
9 ~~and the state board for community college education shall develop~~  
10 ~~cooperatively, after consultation with automotive trades joint~~  
11 ~~apprenticeship committees approved in accordance with RCW 49.04.040, a~~  
12 ~~program for granting)) shall grant certificates of instruction to  
13 persons who successfully complete a course of study, under general  
14 requirements established by the director, in the maintenance of motor  
15 vehicles, including but not limited to gasoline, diesel, and clean-fuel  
16 powered engines, the use of engine and exhaust analysis equipment, and  
17 the repair and maintenance of emission control devices. The director  
18 may establish and implement procedures for granting certification to  
19 persons who successfully complete other training programs or who have  
20 received certification from private organizations which meet the  
21 requirements established in this subsection.~~

22 (b) The department shall make available to the public a list of  
23 those persons who have received certificates of instruction under  
24 subsection (2)(a) of this section.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 82.44 RCW  
26 to read as follows:

27 (1) The annual excise tax specified in RCW 82.44.020 shall be  
28 waived for vehicles meeting the specifications for a "clean-fuel  
29 vehicle" and other requirements as provided in section 3 of this act.

1 (2) This section shall expire June 30, 2000.

2 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.120 RCW  
3 to read as follows:

4 (1) By July 1, 1992, the department shall develop in cooperation  
5 with the departments of general administration and transportation, and  
6 the state energy office, clean-fuel performance and clean-fuel vehicle  
7 emissions specifications. In developing such specifications the  
8 department shall consider the requirements of the clean air act and the  
9 findings of the environmental protection agency, other states, the  
10 American petroleum institute, the gas research institute, and the motor  
11 vehicles manufacturers association.

12 (2) The department shall limit the excise tax exemption provided in  
13 section 2 of this act to vehicles that:

14 (a) Achieve highest emission reductions; and

15 (b) Require modifications or additional costs to purchasers of such  
16 vehicles.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.19 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 (1) At least thirty percent of all new vehicles purchased through  
20 a state contract shall be clean-fuel vehicles. This requirement shall  
21 take effect within twelve months of the time that two or more  
22 manufacturers produce clean-fuel vehicles in the same weight class.

23 (2) The percentage of clean-fuel vehicles purchased through a state  
24 contract shall increase at the rate of five percent each year.

25 (3) In meeting the procurement requirement established in this  
26 section, preference shall be given to vehicles designed to operate  
27 exclusively on clean fuels.

1 (4) Fuel purchased through a state contract shall be a clean fuel  
2 when the fuel is purchased for the operation of a clean-fuel vehicle.

3 (5) (a) Weight classes are established by the following motor  
4 vehicle types:

5 (i) Passenger cars;

6 (ii) Light duty trucks, trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating  
7 by the vehicle manufacturer of less than eight thousand five hundred  
8 pounds;

9 (iii) Heavy duty trucks, trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating  
10 by the vehicle manufacturer of eight thousand five hundred pounds or  
11 more.

12 (b) This subsection does not place an obligation upon the state or  
13 its political subdivisions to purchase vehicles in any number or weight  
14 class other than to meet the thirty percent requirement.

15 (6) For the purposes of this section, "clean fuels" and "clean-fuel  
16 vehicles" shall be those fuels and vehicles meeting the specifications  
17 provided for in section 3 of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 70.120 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 The department, in cooperation with the departments of general  
21 administration and transportation, the utilities and transportation  
22 commission, and the state energy office, shall biennially prepare a  
23 report to the legislature starting July 1, 1992, on:

24 (1) Progress of clean fuel and clean-fuel vehicle programs in  
25 reducing automotive emissions;

26 (2) Recommendations for enhancing clean-fuel distribution systems;

27 (3) Efforts of the state, units of local government, and the  
28 private sector to evaluate and utilize "clean fuel" or "clean-fuel  
29 vehicles"; and

1 (4) Recommendations for changes in the existing program to make it  
2 more effective and, if warranted, for expansion of the program.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 The legislature finds that compressed natural gas offers  
6 significant potential to reduce potential from vehicle emissions and to  
7 significantly decrease dependence on petroleum-based fuels. The  
8 legislature also finds that well-developed and convenient refueling  
9 systems are imperative if compressed natural gas is to be widely used  
10 by the public. The legislature declares that the development of  
11 compressed natural gas refueling stations are in the public interest.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 The commission shall identify barriers to the development of  
15 refueling stations for vehicles operating on compressed natural gas,  
16 and shall develop policies to remove such barriers. In developing such  
17 policies, the commission shall consider providing rate incentives to  
18 encourage natural gas companies to invest in the infrastructure  
19 required by such refueling stations.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 70.94 RCW  
21 to read as follows:

22 The department may disburse matching grants from funds provided by  
23 the legislature from the air pollution control account, created in  
24 section 227, chapter ... (Z-0584.2/91), Laws of 1991, to units of local  
25 government to partially offset the additional cost of purchasing "clean  
26 fuel" and/or operating "clean-fuel vehicles" provided that such  
27 vehicles are used for mass transit.