
SENATE BILL 5866

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford and Fraser

Read first time 02/06/15. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing that counties are not required to
2 distribute to the cities within the county certain county sales and
3 use tax proceeds; amending RCW 82.14.450; providing an effective
4 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 82.14.450 and 2010 c 127 s 1 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) A county legislative authority may submit an authorizing
9 proposition to the county voters at a primary or general election
10 and, if the proposition is approved by a majority of persons voting,
11 impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of this
12 chapter. The title of each ballot measure must clearly state the
13 purposes for which the proposed sales and use tax will be used. The
14 rate of tax under this section may not exceed three-tenths of one
15 percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of
16 the article used, in the case of a use tax.

17 (2)(a) A city legislative authority may submit an authorizing
18 proposition to the city voters at a primary or general election and,
19 if the proposition is approved by a majority of persons voting,
20 impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of this
21 chapter. The title of each ballot measure must clearly state the

1 purposes for which the proposed sales and use tax will be used. The
2 rate of tax under this subsection may not exceed one-tenth of one
3 percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of
4 the article used, in the case of a use tax. A city may not begin
5 imposing a tax approved by the voters under this subsection prior to
6 January 1, 2011.

7 (b) If a county adopts an ordinance or resolution to submit a
8 ballot proposition to the voters to impose the sales and use tax
9 under subsection (1) of this section prior to a city within the
10 county adopting an ordinance or resolution to submit a ballot
11 proposition to the voters to impose the tax under this subsection,
12 the rate of tax by the city under this subsection may not exceed an
13 amount that would cause the total county and city tax rate under this
14 section to exceed three-tenths of one percent. This subsection (2)(b)
15 also applies if the county and city adopt an ordinance or resolution
16 to impose sales and use taxes under this section on the same date.

17 (c) If the city adopts an ordinance or resolution to submit a
18 ballot proposition to the voters to impose the sales and use tax
19 under this subsection prior to the county in which the city is
20 located, the county must provide a credit against its tax under
21 subsection (1) of this section for the city tax under this subsection
22 to the extent the total county and city tax rate under this section
23 would exceed three-tenths of one percent.

24 (3) The tax authorized in this section is in addition to any
25 other taxes authorized by law and must be collected from those
26 persons who are taxable by the state under chapters 82.08 and 82.12
27 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within the county.

28 (4) The retail sale or use of motor vehicles, and the lease of
29 motor vehicles for up to the first thirty-six months of the lease,
30 are exempt from tax imposed under this section.

31 (5) One-third of all money received under this section must be
32 used solely for criminal justice purposes, fire protection purposes,
33 or both. For the purposes of this subsection, "criminal justice
34 purposes" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.14.340.

35 (6) Money received by a county under subsection (1) of this
36 section for a county tax imposed prior to July 1, 2015, must be
37 shared between the county and the cities as follows: Sixty percent
38 must be retained by the county and forty percent must be distributed
39 on a per capita basis to cities in the county. A county that imposes
40 any portion of the tax authorized under subsection (1) of this

1 section on or after July 1, 2015, is not required to distribute money
2 from the proceeds of that portion of the tax imposed after June 30,
3 2015, to the cities within the county.

4 (7) Tax proceeds received by a city imposing a tax under this
5 section must be shared between the county and city as follows:
6 Fifteen percent must be distributed to the county and eighty-five
7 percent is retained by the city.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
10 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
11 effect July 1, 2015.

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