

ESSB 5955 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Transportation

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 82.44.135 and 2006 c 318 s 9 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) Before a local government subject to this chapter may impose
6 a motor vehicle excise tax, the local government must contract with
7 the department for the collection of the tax. Except as otherwise
8 provided in this section, the department may charge a reasonable
9 amount, not to exceed one percent of tax collections, for the
10 administration and collection of the tax.

11 (2) Any contract entered into with a regional transit authority
12 for the collection of a motor vehicle excise tax must provide that
13 the department receives full reimbursement for the administration and
14 collection of the tax, including those costs related to customer
15 service and information technology.

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

18 If the department enters into a contract with a regional transit
19 authority for the collection of a motor vehicle excise tax authorized
20 in RCW 81.104.160(1), and after the regional transit authority
21 implements a market value adjustment program as directed in section 3
22 of this act, the department must clearly indicate, when issuing
23 notices to persons renewing vehicle registrations under RCW
24 46.16A.110, the net result after application of the credit. The
25 department must include as part of the notices an insert that
26 provides a description of the market value adjustment program and how
27 it affects taxpayers generally.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 81.112
29 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) A regional transit authority that includes portions of a
2 county with a population of more than one million five hundred
3 thousand and that imposes a motor vehicle excise tax under RCW
4 81.104.160(1) must establish a market value adjustment program to be
5 implemented for vehicles with registrations that are due or become
6 due on or after September 1, 2018.

7 (2) Under the market value adjustment program, the authority must
8 provide a credit against the motor vehicle excise tax due in an
9 amount equal to the tax due under RCW 81.104.160(1) calculated using
10 the vehicle valuation methodology authorized under RCW 81.104.160(1),
11 less the tax otherwise due calculated using the vehicle valuation
12 schedule of percentages in RCW 82.44.035, as applied to eighty-five
13 percent of the value of the vehicle, if the resulting difference is
14 positive.

15 (3) The program may be funded by any resources available to the
16 authority including, but not limited to:

- 17 (a) Unrestricted tax proceeds or other revenues; and
- 18 (b) Savings from the delivery of projects.

19 (4)(a) The program must be implemented in a manner that allows
20 the delivery of the system and financing plan approved by the
21 authority's voters in 2016 to the extent practicable. Building on
22 past and ongoing cost-savings efforts, the agency must continue to
23 evaluate measures that may be needed to reduce costs. These measures
24 include, but are not limited to:

25 (i) Designing projects using the principles of practical design,
26 as described for use by the department of transportation under RCW
27 47.01.480;

28 (ii) Efficiencies realized in coordinating and integrating
29 activities with other transit agencies and local governments,
30 including through shared maintenance and operations, joint
31 procurement, joint marketing, joint customer services, and joint
32 capital projects; and

33 (iii) Revising project contingency budgets, if practicable.

34 (b) If, when implementing the program, the authority is not able
35 to deliver projects according to the system and financing plan
36 approved by the authority's voters in 2016, the authority must
37 identify savings and cost reductions, first, from projects other than
38 light rail projects and bus rapid transit projects, and is prohibited
39 from eliminating light rail projects and bus rapid transit projects.

1 (5) Until the plan has been completed, the authority must submit
2 an annual report to the transportation committees of the legislature
3 by December 31st of each year on the status of the delivery of the
4 plan. The report must include detail on the extent to and manner in
5 which the authority has used cost savings to maintain the delivery of
6 the plan as approved by the voters.

7 (6) The department of licensing is authorized to make rules to
8 implement this section.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 81.112
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 (1) Beginning July 1, 2019, and continuing through the end of
12 June 2020, the authority must allow an additional one-time credit
13 against the motor vehicle excise tax due with respect to any vehicle
14 for which the 0.8 percent tax in RCW 81.104.160(1) was paid before
15 September 1, 2018. The one-time credit amount on the 0.8 percent tax
16 paid before September 1, 2018, must be calculated using the market
17 value adjustment program credit methodology in section 3 of this act,
18 except that the total amount of credit applied under this section and
19 section 3 of this act may not exceed the current motor vehicle excise
20 tax liability with respect to the vehicle. The authority may develop
21 a system for issuing one-time credits in consultation with the
22 department of licensing.

23 To the greatest extent practicable, the credit provided under
24 this section must be issued using an online process or as part of
25 regular motor vehicle excise tax payment processing.

26 (2) The department of licensing is authorized to make rules to
27 implement this section.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any provision of this act or its
29 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
30 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
31 persons or circumstances is not affected.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
33 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
34 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
35 effect immediately."

36 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Removes the provision that makes a sales and use tax offset fee, which would be paid by a regional transit authority (RTA) to the state, contingent upon adoption of a resolution by the board of the RTA that affirms that the fee will not impact the delivery of the RTA system plan approved by its voters in 2016.

(2) Removes the provision that deletes the requirement that the fee be paid monthly and the provision that the obligation to cumulatively pay \$518 million occur over a period of five years.

(3) Removes the provisions that, in regard to RTA projects approved by voters after January 1, 2016, require cities, counties, and the Department of Transportation to:

(a) Take all reasonable, feasible, and lawful measures necessary to facilitate preparation and processing of any required permits as soon as practicable with the goal of issuing land use permit decisions within one hundred twenty days of submittal; and

(b) Participate in any project preferred alternative selection process as early as possible in the environmental process to facilitate expedited planning for RTA projects approved by voters after January 1, 2016.

(4) Removes the requirement that the RTA submit biennial reports to the transportation committees of the legislature on the status of permit timelines and the effectiveness of the new requirements in expediting the permitting process for RTA projects approved by voters after January 1, 2016.

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