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**HOUSE BILL 1938**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Steele, Barkis, and Chapman

AN ACT Relating to creating a local infrastructure investment program to support the development of affordable housing, workforce housing, and revitalization efforts; and adding a new chapter to Title 39 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Affordable housing" means residential housing units for rental occupancy that are rented or owned by a person or household whose monthly household costs, including utilities other than telephone, do not exceed the monthly income threshold defined through the ordinance process provided in section 3 of this act.

(2) "Department" means the department of revenue.

(3) "Eligible project" means an affordable housing project, a workforce housing project, or revitalization effort within a revitalization district. The eligible project may be housing, mixed-use, industrial, commercial, or a combination of multiple development types.

(4) "Local infrastructure" has the same meaning as provided for "public improvements" in RCW 39.104.020.

(5) "Participating local jurisdiction" means a city or county that establishes a local infrastructure investment program.

(6) "Revitalization effort" means a project that promotes the continued economic growth of a participating local jurisdiction, as defined through the ordinance process provided in section 3 of this act.

(7) "Workforce housing" means residential housing units for rental occupancy that are rented or owned by a person who meets the requirements defined through the ordinance process provided in section 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  (1) A participating local jurisdiction that builds approved local infrastructure to support the development of affordable housing or workforce housing or to support revitalization efforts within a revitalization district may receive a remittance that is the equivalent of a 4.37 percent sales or use tax on the construction of such local infrastructure.

(2) The remittance may be claimed once per project. The remittance received by the participating local jurisdiction under this section must be credited against the sales tax due to the state under chapter 82.08 RCW on the same sales.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  (1) To commence a local infrastructure investment program, a participating local jurisdiction must adopt an ordinance establishing the following parameters for their program:

(a) The local income threshold used to define affordable housing;

(b) The local requirements used to define workforce housing;

(c) The local definition of revitalization effort; and

(d) The geographic boundaries of the revitalization district.

(2) The participating local jurisdiction must hold a public hearing on the proposed local infrastructure investment program before passage of the ordinance establishing the program. The public hearing must be attended by at least a majority of the whole governing body. The public hearing is subject to the notice requirements in section 4 of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  (1) Prior to adopting the ordinance creating the local infrastructure investment program, the participating local jurisdiction must provide public notice.

(2) Notice of the public hearing must be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation within the participating local jurisdiction at least ten days before the public hearing and posted in at least six conspicuous public places located in the participating local jurisdiction.

(3) Notice must also be sent by United States mail to the property owners within the participating local jurisdiction at least thirty days prior to the hearing.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  (1) The city or county must notify the department that a local infrastructure investment program has been established, in a form prescribed by the department.

(2) To collect the sales tax remittance, the participating local jurisdiction must notify the department using a web-based platform of the following information about the investment:

(a) The amount of money spent on the eligible infrastructure investment; and

(b) A brief description of the type of infrastructure investment and the eligible project it will support.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 39 RCW.

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