
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5918

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Drew, Sellar, Vognild, Bluechel and Winsley)

Read first time 01/31/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to ride-sharing vehicles; adding a new section to
2 chapter 82.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.16 RCW; creating
3 a new section; prescribing penalties; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Transportation demand strategies that reduce
6 the number of vehicles on Washington state's highways, roads, and
7 streets, and provide attractive and effective alternatives to single-
8 occupancy travel can improve ambient air quality, conserve fossil
9 fuels, and forestall the need for capital improvements to the state's
10 transportation system. The legislature has required many public and
11 private employers in the state's largest counties to implement
12 transportation demand management programs to reduce the number of
13 single-occupant vehicle travelers during the morning and evening rush
14 hours. The legislature finds that additional transportation demand
15 management strategies are necessary to mitigate the adverse social,
16 environmental, and economic effects of automobile dependency and
17 traffic congestion. While expensive capital improvements, including
18 dedicated busways and commuter rail systems, may be necessary to
19 improve the region's mobility, they are only part of the solution. All

1 public and private entities that attract single-occupant vehicle
2 drivers must develop imaginative and cost-effective ways to encourage
3 walking, bicycling, carpooling, vanpooling, bus riding, and
4 telecommuting. It is the intent of the legislature to revise those
5 portions of state law that inhibit the application of imaginative
6 solutions to the state's transportation mobility problems and to
7 encourage many more public and private employers to adopt effective
8 transportation demand management strategies.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 82.04 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) Major employers in the state's eight largest counties affected
12 by the commute trip reduction programs required under RCW 70.94.521
13 through 70.94.551 who are taxable under this chapter and provide
14 financial incentives to their employees for ride sharing shall be
15 allowed a credit of fifty percent of the amount paid to employees for
16 ride sharing. The credit may not exceed one hundred twenty dollars per
17 year for a two-person carpool, one hundred sixty dollars per year for
18 a three-person carpool, and two hundred dollars per year for a four-
19 person carpool.

20 (2) Application for tax credit under this chapter may only be made
21 by major employers as defined by RCW 70.94.524 and in the form and
22 manner prescribed by the department.

23 (3) The director shall on the 25th of February, May, August, and
24 November of each year advise the state treasurer of the amount of
25 credit taken during the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last
26 day of March, June, September, and December, respectively.

27 (4) On the first of June, April, July, and October of each year,
28 the state treasurer based upon information provided by the department
29 shall deposit a sum equal to the dollar amount of the credit provided
30 under subsection (1) of this section from the air pollution control
31 account to the general fund.

32 (5) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement of a material
33 fact in the application for a credit under subsection (1) of this
34 section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 82.16 RCW
36 to read as follows:

1 (1) Major employers in the state's eight largest counties affected
2 by the commute trip reduction programs required under RCW 70.94.521
3 through 70.94.551 who are taxable under this chapter and provide
4 financial incentives to their employees for ride sharing shall be
5 allowed a credit of fifty percent of the amount paid to employees for
6 ride sharing. The credit may not exceed one hundred twenty dollars per
7 year for a two-person carpool, one hundred sixty dollars per year for
8 a three-person carpool, and two hundred dollars per year for a four-
9 person carpool.

10 (2) Application for tax credit under this chapter may only be made
11 by major employers as defined by RCW 70.94.524 and in the form and
12 manner prescribed by the department.

13 (3) The director shall on the 25th of February, May, August, and
14 November of each year advise the state treasurer of the amount of
15 credit taken during the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last
16 day of March, June, September, and December, respectively.

17 (4) On the first of June, April, July, and October of each year,
18 the state treasurer based upon information provided by the department
19 shall deposit a sum equal to the dollar amount of the credit provided
20 under subsection (1) of this section from the air pollution control
21 account to the general fund.

22 (5) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement of a material
23 fact in the application for a credit under subsection (1) of this
24 section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act shall expire June 30, 1996.

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