

5170-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Finkbeiner, Eide and Kohl-Welles)

Brief Description: Encouraging telework.

SB 5170-S - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Finds that telework has been found to reduce commute trips and provide flexibility for work-related travel. Additionally, telework enables employers to allow employees to work outside urban areas, which reduces commute trips while strengthening rural economies. Telework is a key component in a comprehensive transportation demand management package.

Requires the commute trip reduction task force to include a telework enhancement committee.

Directs the task force to develop procedures and criteria for allocation of funds for the telework enhancement projects and telework activities on a statewide basis to address the highest priorities for enhancing telework.

Provides that an employer is allowed a credit against tax due under chapter 82.04 RCW for telework expenditures, including telework equipment, installation costs, and telework training.

Requires the commute trip reduction task force to determine the effectiveness of this tax credit as part of its ongoing evaluation of the commute trip reduction law and report to the legislature. The report must include information on the amount of tax credits claimed to date and recommendations on future funding for the tax credit program. The report must be incorporated into the recommendations required in RCW 70.94.537(5).

Provides that an employer is allowed a credit against tax due under chapter 82.16 RCW for telework expenditures.

Provides that the act shall be null and void if appropriations are not approved.