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**Transportation Committee**

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**HB 1405**

**Brief Description:** Modifying the fuel tax rate used to determine fuel tax distributions to fund nonhighway expenditures.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Wallace, Hinkle, Condotta, O'Brien, Fromhold, McCune and Ahern.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Removes the cap on the fuel tax amount to compute the transfer to the Snowmobile Account.

**Hearing Date:** 2/1/07

**Staff:** Jerry Long (786-7306).

**Background:**

From time to time, but at least once each four years, the Department of Licensing determines the amount of moneys paid to it as motor vehicle fuel tax that is tax on snowmobile fuel. The calculation uses 135 gallons as the average yearly fuel usage per snowmobile, the number of registered snowmobiles during the calendar year under determination, and a fuel tax rate of:

1. Nineteen cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2005;
2. Twenty cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007;
3. Twenty-one cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2009;
4. Twenty-two cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011; and
5. Twenty-three cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel beginning July 1, 2011, and thereafter.

The Snowmobile Account is within the state treasury. Snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected are deposited in the Snowmobile Account and are appropriated to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for the administration, acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and the development and implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education programs.

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**Summary of Bill:**

Removes the yearly fuel tax cap used for calculating the amount of tax transferred from the Motor Vehicle Account to the Snowmobile Account. The rate to be used in the calculation will be the same amount of the motor vehicle fuel tax rate in affect during the year under determination.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.