S-0715.1

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**SENATE BILL 5249**

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**State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Keiser, Conway, Saldaña, Hasegawa, Chase, Kuderer, and Hunt

AN ACT Relating to damages for wage theft; amending RCW 49.52.070; and prescribing penalties.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 49.52.070 and 2010 c 8 s 12056 are each amended to read as follows:

Any employer and any officer, vice principal or agent of any employer who shall violate any of the provisions of RCW 49.52.050 (1) and (2) shall be liable in a civil action by the aggrieved employee or his or her assignee to judgment for ((~~twice~~)) the amount of the wages unlawfully rebated or withheld plus twice that amount by way of exemplary damages, together with costs of suit and a reasonable sum for attorney's fees((~~: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the benefits of this section shall not be available to any employee who has knowingly submitted to such violations~~)).

**--- END ---**