SENATE BILL 5249

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

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

Read first time 01/18/17. Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor & Sports.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to damages for wage theft; amending RCW
- 2 49.52.070; and prescribing penalties.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.52.070 and 2010 c 8 s 12056 are each amended to 5 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)
- 8 and (2) shall be liable in a civil action by the aggrieved employee 9 or his or her assignee to judgment for ((twice)) the amount of the
- wages unlawfully rebated or withheld <u>plus twice that amount</u> by way of exemplary damages, together with costs of suit and a reasonable sum
- 12 for attorney's fees((: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the benefits of this
- 13 section shall not be available to any employee who has knowingly
- 14 submitted to such violations)).

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p. 1 SB 5249