SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2889

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session

 ${\bf By}$ House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representative Griffey)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to utility tax disclosures; and adding a new 2 section to chapter 35.92 RCW.

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

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 35.92
RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Any city or town that operates its own water, sewer or 7 wastewater, or stormwater utility and imposes a fee or tax on the gross revenue of such a utility shall disclose the fee or tax rate to 8 9 its utility customers. Such disclosure shall include statements, as 10 applicable, that "the amount billed includes a fee or tax up 11 to (dollar amount or percentage) calculated on the gross 12 revenue of the water utility; a fee or tax up to (dollar 13 amount or percentage) calculated on gross revenue of the sewer or 14 wastewater utility; a fee or tax up to (dollar amount or 15 percentage) calculated on the gross revenue of the stormwater 16 utility.

17 (2) The disclosures required by this section must occur through18 at least one of the following methods:

(a) On regular billing statements provided electronically or inwritten form;

1 (b) On the city or town's web site, if the city or town provides 2 written notice to customers or taxpayers that such information is 3 available on its web site; or

4 (c) Through a billing insert, mailer, or other written or 5 electronic communication provided to customers or taxpayers on either 6 an annual basis or within thirty days of the effective date of any 7 subsequent tax rate change.

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