SENATE BILL 5799

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By Senators Robinson and Lovick

Read first time 01/11/22. Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the application of the workforce 2 education investment surcharge to provider clinics and affiliated 3 organizations; amending RCW 82.04.299; creating a new section; and 4 providing an effective date.

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

6 Sec. 1. RCW 82.04.299 and 2020 c 2 s 4 are each amended to read 7 as follows:

8 (1)(a) Beginning with business activities occurring on or after 9 April 1, 2020, in addition to the taxes imposed under RCW 10 82.04.290(2), a workforce education investment surcharge is imposed 11 on select advanced computing businesses. The surcharge is equal to 12 the gross income of the business subject to the tax under RCW 13 82.04.290(2), multiplied by the rate of 1.22 percent.

(b) Except as provided in (e) of this subsection (1), in no case will the combined surcharge imposed under this subsection (1) paid by all members of an affiliated group be more than nine million dollars annually.

18 (c) For persons subject to the surcharge imposed under this 19 subsection (1) that report under one or more tax classifications, the 20 surcharge applies only to business activities taxed under RCW 21 82.04.290(2). 1 (d) The surcharge imposed under this subsection (1) must be 2 reported and paid on a quarterly basis in a manner as required by the 3 department. Returns and amounts payable under this subsection (1) are 4 due by the last day of the month immediately following the end of the 5 reporting period covered by the return. All other taxes must be 6 reported and paid as required under RCW 82.32.045.

7 (e)(i) To aid in the effective administration of the surcharge in 8 this subsection (1), the department may require persons believed to 9 be engaging in advanced computing or affiliated with a person 10 believed to be engaging in advanced computing to disclose whether 11 they are a member of an affiliated group and, if so, to identify all 12 other members of the affiliated group subject to the surcharge.

If the department establishes, by clear, cogent, and 13 (ii) 14 convincing evidence, that one or more members of an affiliated group, with intent to evade the surcharge under this subsection (1), failed 15 16 to fully comply with this subsection (1)(e), the department must 17 assess against that person, or those persons collectively, a penalty equal to fifty percent of the amount of the total surcharge payable 18 by all members of that affiliated group for the calendar year during 19 20 which the person or persons failed to fully comply with this subsection (1)(e). The penalty under this subsection (1)(e) is in 21 22 lieu of and not in addition to the evasion penalty under RCW 23 82.32.090(7).

24 (f) For the purposes of this subsection (1) the following 25 definitions apply:

(i) "Advanced computing" means designing or developing computer
software or computer hardware, whether directly or contracting with
another person, including modifications to computer software or
computer hardware, cloud computing services, or operating an online
marketplace, an online search engine, or online social networking
platform;

32 (ii) "Affiliate" and "affiliated" means a person that directly or 33 indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is 34 controlled by, or is under common control with another person;

35 (iii) "Affiliated group" means a group of two or more persons 36 that are affiliated with each other;

37 (iv) "Cloud computing services" means on-demand delivery of 38 computing resources, such as networks, servers, storage, 39 applications, and services, over the internet;

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1 (v) "Control" means the possession, directly or indirectly, of 2 more than fifty percent of the power to direct or cause the direction 3 of the management and policies of a person, whether through the 4 ownership of voting shares, by contract, or otherwise; and

(vi) "Select advanced computing business" means a person who is a 5 6 member of an affiliated group with at least one member of the affiliated group engaging in the business of advanced computing, and 7 the affiliated group has worldwide gross revenue of more than twenty-8 five billion dollars during the immediately preceding calendar year. 9 A person who is primarily engaged within this state in the provision 10 of commercial mobile service, as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C. 11 Sec. 332(d)(1), shall not be considered a select advanced computing 12 business. A person who is primarily engaged in this state in the 13 operation and provision of access to transmission facilities and 14 infrastructure that the person owns or leases for the transmission of 15 16 voice, data, text, sound, and video using wired telecommunications 17 networks shall not be considered a select advanced computing 18 business. A person that is primarily engaged in business as a "financial institution" as defined in RCW 82.04.29004, as that 19 section existed on January 1, 2020, shall not be considered a select 20 21 advanced computing business. For purposes of this subsection 22 (1) (f) (vi), "primarily" is determined based on gross income of the 23 business.

24 (2) (a) The workforce education investment surcharge under this 25 section does not apply to ((any)):

26 (i) Any hospital as defined in RCW 70.41.020, including any 27 hospital that comes within the scope of chapter 71.12 RCW if the 28 hospital is also licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW; or

(ii) A provider clinic offering primary care, multispecialty and surgical services, including behavioral health services, and any affiliate of the provider clinic if the affiliate is an organization that offers health care services or provides administrative support for a provider clinic, or is an independent practice association or accountable care organization.

35 <u>(b) The exemptions under this subsection (2) do not apply to</u> 36 <u>amounts received by any member of an affiliated group other than the</u> 37 <u>businesses described in (a) of this subsection.</u>

38 (c) For purposes of the exemption in (a) (ii) of this subsection:

(i) "Health care services" means services offered by health care
providers relating to the prevention, cure, or treatment of illness,
injury, or disease.

4 <u>(ii)</u> "Primary care" means wellness and prevention services and 5 <u>the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions</u>.

6 (3) Revenues from the surcharge under this section must be 7 deposited directly into the workforce education investment account 8 established in RCW 43.79.195.

9 (4) The department has the authority to determine through an 10 audit or other investigation whether a person is subject to the 11 surcharge imposed in this section.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. RCW 82.32.805 and 82.32.808 do apply to 13 this act.

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2022.

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