Finance Committee

HB 1764

Brief Description: Establishing a method of valuing asphalt and aggregate used in public road construction for purposes of taxation.

Sponsors: Representatives Wylie and Orcutt.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Establishes a valuation method for property used in public road construction and adds a public road construction market adjustment of 7 percent.

Hearing Date: 2/21/23

Staff: Rachelle Harris (253-444-0316).

Background:

Retail Sales and Use Tax.

Retail sales taxes are imposed on retail sales of most articles of tangible personal property, digital products, and some services. A retail sale is a sale to the final consumer or end user of the property, digital product, or service. If retail sales taxes were not collected when the user acquired the property, digital products, or services, then use tax applies to the value of property, digital product, or service when used in this state. The state, all counties, and all cities levy retail sales and use taxes. The state sales and use tax rate is 6.5 percent; local sales and use tax rates vary from 0.5 percent to 4.0 percent, depending on the location.

When determining use tax on tangible personal property, the value of the article shall be determined based on the first act within the state by which the taxpayer takes or assumes dominion or control over the article. The value includes installation, storage, distribution, or any

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other act preparatory to subsequent use or consumption within the state.

Tangible personal property incorporated as an ingredient or component of public road construction used by the taxpayer is subject to use tax. The method to determine the value of these components is the value of external sales. There are five factors used to determine if the value of these components can be determined by the proceeds from other sales by the taxpayer:

- 1. sales at comparable locations;
- 2. products of like quality and character;
- 3. comparable conditions of sale;
- 4. comparable purchasers; and
- 5. similar quantities.

In the absence of sales of similar products as a guide to value, the value may be determined using a cost basis.

Summary of Bill:

For tangible personal property incorporated as an ingredient or component of public road construction, the value of the property used is the sum of all direct costs attributable to the article used, plus a public road construction market adjustment of seven percent when the article is not valued on its purchase price.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 13, 2023.

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