## SENATE BILL 5110

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser and Kuderer

Prefiled 12/29/22. Read first time 01/09/23. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to adding penalties for certain prohibited
- 2 practices in chapter 49.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.44
- 3 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.44 6 RCW to read as follows:
  - Unless a criminal or civil penalty is otherwise specified for a violation in this chapter, a person aggrieved by a violation of a provision in this chapter may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction. The court may:
- (1) Award any prevailing party bringing an action injunctive relief, actual damages, a penalty of no less than \$500 and no more than \$1,000, and reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- 14 (2) Pursuant to RCW 4.84.185, award any prevailing party against
  15 whom an action has been brought for a violation of this chapter
  16 reasonable expenses and attorneys' fees upon final judgment and
  17 written findings by the trial judge that the action was frivolous and
  18 advanced without reasonable cause.

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