
SECOND ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5150

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Senator Shewmake)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to the beef commission; amending RCW 16.67.120;
2 and adding new sections to chapter 16.67 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 16.67.120 and 2002 c 313 s 83 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) There is hereby levied an assessment of (~~one dollar~~) up to
7 \$2.50 per head to be implemented as prescribed in subsection (2) of
8 this section on all Washington cattle sold in this state or elsewhere
9 to be paid by the seller at the time of sale: PROVIDED, That if such
10 sale is accompanied by a brand inspection by the department such an
11 assessment may be collected at the same time, place and in the same
12 manner as brand inspection fees. Such fees may be collected by the
13 livestock (~~services—division~~) identification program of the
14 department and transmitted to the commission: PROVIDED FURTHER, That,
15 if such sale is made without a brand inspection by the department the
16 assessment shall be paid by the seller and transmitted directly to
17 the commission by the (~~fifteenth~~) 15th day of the month following
18 the month the transaction occurred.

19 (2) (a) Beginning July 1, 2024, the assessment must be \$1.50 per
20 head. \$0.50 of the \$1.50 assessment levied under this subsection may

1 not be collected at the first point of sale of any calf identified
2 with a green tag as identified in RCW 16.57.160.

3 (b) Beginning January 1, 2025, the assessment must be \$2.00 per
4 head. \$1.00 of the \$2.00 assessment levied under this subsection may
5 not be collected at the first point of sale of any calf identified
6 with a green tag as identified in RCW 16.57.160.

7 (c) Beginning January 1, 2026, the assessment must be \$2.50 per
8 head. \$1.50 of the \$2.50 assessment levied under this subsection may
9 not be collected at the first point of sale of any calf identified
10 with a green tag as identified in RCW 16.57.160.

11 (3) The procedures for collecting all state and federal
12 assessments under this chapter shall be as required by the federal
13 order and as described by rules adopted by the commission.

14 (4) The commission shall submit a report by January 1st of each
15 year, in compliance with RCW 43.01.036, to the appropriate committees
16 of the legislature having oversight over agriculture. The report must
17 provide an accounting of the funds collected under this section for
18 the previous year, including a record of the amount collected, the
19 amount spent, and the purposes for which the funds were used.

20 (5) The commission shall hold meetings in different geographic
21 regions of the state throughout the year, with at least two meetings
22 held east of the crest of the Cascade mountains. Geographic regions
23 must include the northeast, southeast, central southwest, and
24 northwest regions of the state.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 16.67
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 The commission may fund, conduct, or otherwise participate in
28 scientific research related to beef including, without limitation, to
29 improve production, quality, transportation, processing,
30 distribution, and environmental stewardship.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 16.67
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 (1) Of the assessments levied in RCW 16.67.120, a producer or
34 owner of cattle from whom an assessment is collected has the right to
35 request a refund of not more than \$.50 per head beginning July 1,
36 2024, not more than \$1.00 per head beginning January 1, 2025, and not
37 more than \$1.50 per head beginning January 1, 2026. Refund requests

1 must be mailed to the commission within 90 calendar days of the
2 assessment.

3 (2) The commission must process the requested refunds on a
4 calendar quarterly basis. Any refund request that is received by the
5 commission less than 15 days from the end of the calendar quarter
6 must be paid at the end of the next quarter.

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