
Transportation Committee

HB 1519

Brief Description: Making adjustments to the service and filing fees for vehicle subagents, county auditors, and other agents.

Sponsors: Representatives Fey, Barkis and Goodman.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases the service fee for a registration transaction from \$8 to \$11 and the service fee for a title transaction from \$15 to \$18.
- Increases the filing fee for a registration transaction from \$4.50 to \$6 and the filing fee for a title transaction from \$5.50 to \$6.50.

Hearing Date: 1/30/25

Staff: Michael Hirsch (786-7195).

Background:

The Department of Licensing (DOL), county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the Director of the DOL collects a service fee of: \$15 for changes in a vehicle or vessel title certificate or for verification of a record and preparation of an affidavit of lost title; and \$8 for a registration renewal, issuing a transit permit, accepting a vessel registration, accepting a report of sale, and accepting a transitional ownership record.

The service fees collected by the DOL, or a county auditor or other agent must be deposited into the Capital Vessel Replacement Account. The service fees collected by subagents are retained by the subagents.

A person pays a filing fee of: \$4.50 for a vehicle registration or any other right to operate a

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vehicle on state highways, including transactions involving a report of sale, transitional ownership record, farm vehicle reduced gross weight license, or vessel registration; and \$5.50 for a certificate of title for a vehicle or vessel. The filing fee distribution is dependent on the entity that collects the fee and is as follows:

- If the filing fee is collected by a county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the Director of the DOL, the fee must be distributed to the county treasurer and credited to the county current expense fund, except that 50 cents of the filing fee must be remitted to the DOL, and the DOL must distribute an equal share of the remitted funds to each county at least quarterly.
- If the filing fee is collected by the Washington State Patrol, the fee must be deposited into the State Patrol Highway Account.
- If the filing fee is collected by the Washington State Department of Transportation, the fee must be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Fund.
- If the filing fee is collected by the DOL, the fee must be deposited into the Highway Safety Fund; however, \$2 of the fee must be deposited into the Multimodal Transportation Account if the fee is collected in conjunction with collecting a registration fee for a commercial trailer or private use single-axle trailer or in conjunction with collecting a vehicle license fee by weight.

Summary of Bill:

The service fee for changes in a vehicle or vessel title certificate, changes in ownership for nontitled vehicles, and related transactions is increased to \$18. The service fee for a vehicle or vessel registration renewal, issuing a transit permit, accepting a report of sale, or accepting a transitional ownership record is increased to \$11. The filing fee for a vehicle or vessel certificate of title is increased to \$6.50. The filing fee for a vehicle or vessel registration, report of sale, transitional ownership record, or farm vehicle reduced gross weight license is increased to \$6.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Preliminary fiscal note available.

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