

FINAL BILL REPORT

ESSB 5294

C 232 L 25
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Transferring dedicated accounts for certain professional licenses to the business and professions account.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Gildon, Stanford, Dozier and Nobles; by request of Department of Licensing).

Senate Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade
House Committee on Appropriations

Background: The Business and Professions Account was created in 2005. Receipts from business or professional licenses, registrations, certifications, renewals, examinations, or civil penalties assessed and collected by the Department of Licensing are deposited into the Account. The following professions are required to use the Account:

- auctioneers;
- cosmetologists, barbers, and manicurists;
- court reporters;
- private investigators;
- security guards;
- bail bond agents;
- home inspectors;
- collection agencies;
- employment agencies;
- camping resorts;
- sellers of travel;
- notaries public;
- timeshares;
- boxing, martial arts, and wrestling;
- body art, body piercing, and tattooing;
- whitewater river outfitters;
- commercial telephone solicitation; and
- scrap metal businesses.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary: The list of professions that are required to deposit receipts from business or professional licenses, registrations, certifications, renewals, examinations, or civil penalties assessed and collected by the Department of Licensing into the Account is expanded to include the following professions:

- architects;
- embalmers and funeral directors;
- landscape architects;
- certified real estate appraisers;
- geologists;
- appraisal management companies; and
- the funeral and cemetery board.

The following accounts are repealed:

- Architects License Account;
- Funeral and Cemetery Account;
- Landscape Architects License Account;
- Real Estate Appraiser Commission Account;
- Geologists' Account; and
- Appraisal Management Company Account.

Any residual amounts remaining in the repealed accounts as of December 31, 2025, will be transferred to the Business and Professions Account. The transfer will be made by the state treasurer once the Office of Financial Management has completed the financial statement for fiscal year 2025.

The Department of Licensing is directed to report annually on expenditures and revenues for each of the professions that use the Business and Professions Account. The first report is due on September 30, 2026.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	97	0

Effective: January 1, 2026