H-0052.1

## HOUSE BILL 1019

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Shavers, Wylie, Kloba, Fosse, and Reeves

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- 1 AN ACT Relating to tax incentives for farmers; adding a new
- 2 section to chapter 82.04 RCW; creating a new section; and providing
- 3 an expiration date.
- 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 82.04 6 RCW to read as follows:
- 7 (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, a credit is allowed against taxes 8 due under this chapter for 25 percent of expenditures made in the 9 previous year by a qualified farmer for the purchase of new
- 10 equipment, infrastructure, seed, seedlings, spores, animal feed, and
- 11 amendments.
- 12 (2) To qualify for a credit, a farmer must meet at least one of the following criteria:
- 14 (a) Is a recipient of grant funds originating directly from the 15 Washington state conservation commission or indirectly receives grant 16 funds through a conservation district or other Washington public 17 entity; or
- 18 (b) Is a participant in a Washington state conservation 19 commission or conservation district conservation program.
- 20 (3) The credit claimed may not exceed the tax that would 21 otherwise be due under this chapter. Any unused credit not used in

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- the current calendar year may be carried over and claimed against the person's tax liability for the next succeeding calendar year. Any credit remaining unused in the next succeeding calendar year may be carried forward and claimed against the person's tax liability for the second succeeding calendar year; but may not be carried over for any calendar year thereafter. Refunds may not be granted in the place of credits.
  - (4) An application is not required to claim the credit, but the claimant must keep records necessary for the department to determine eligibility for the credit under this section including documentation of grant funds received and verification of program participation.
- 12 (5) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this section.
- 14 (6) For the purposes of this section, "farmer" has the same 15 meaning as in RCW 82.04.213.
  - (7) This section expires January 1, 2036.

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- Sec. 2. This section is the tax preference 17 NEW SECTION. 18 performance statement for the tax preference contained in section 1, 19 chapter . . ., Laws of 2025 (section 1 of this act). This performance 20 statement is only intended to be used for subsequent evaluation of 21 the tax preference. It is not intended to create a private right of 22 action by any party or be used to determine eligibility for preferential tax treatment. 23
  - (1) The legislature categorizes this tax preference as one intended to induce certain designated behavior by taxpayers, as indicated in RCW 82.32.808(2)(a).
  - (2) It is the legislature's specific public policy objective to provide a tax incentive for farmers in order to attract more farmers to participate in conservation programs in Washington.
  - (3) If a review finds increased farmer participation in conservation programs in Washington after the effective date of this section, then the legislature intends to extend the expiration date of the tax preference.
- 34 (4) In order to obtain the data necessary to perform the review 35 in subsection (3) of this section, the joint legislative audit and 36 review committee may refer to any data collected by the state.

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