
HOUSE BILL 1552

State of Washington **69th Legislature** **2025 Regular Session**

By Representatives Peterson, Low, Reed, Ormsby, and Hill

Read first time 01/23/25. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the fee on real estate broker
2 licenses to fund the Washington center for real estate research and
3 adjusting the fee to account for inflation; amending RCW 18.85.451,
4 18.85.461, and 18.85.471; and providing expiration dates.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.85.451 and 2015 c 175 s 1 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) A fee of (~~ten~~) 20 dollars is created and shall be assessed
9 on each real estate broker and managing broker's original license and
10 upon each renewal of a license with an expiration date after October
11 1, 1999, including renewals of inactive licenses.

12 (2) This section expires September 30, (~~2025~~) 2035.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.85.461 and 2016 sp.s. c 36 s 915 are each amended
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) The Washington real estate research account is created in the
16 state treasury. All receipts from the fee under RCW 18.85.451 shall
17 be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent
18 only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used
19 only for the purposes of RCW 18.85.471.

1 (2) (~~During the 2015-2017 fiscal biennium, the legislature may~~
2 ~~transfer moneys from the real estate research account to the state~~
3 ~~general fund such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the~~
4 ~~account.~~

5 ~~(3))~~) This section expires September 30, (~~(2025))~~ 2035.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.85.471 and 2015 c 175 s 3 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The purpose of a real estate research center in Washington
9 state is to provide credible research, value-added information,
10 education services, and project-oriented research to real estate
11 licensees, real estate consumers, real estate service providers,
12 institutional customers, public agencies, and communities in
13 Washington state and the Pacific Northwest region. The center may:

14 (a) Conduct studies and research on affordable housing and
15 strategies to meet the affordable housing needs of the state;

16 (b) Conduct studies in all areas directly or indirectly related
17 to real estate and urban or rural economics and economically isolated
18 communities;

19 (c) Disseminate findings and results of real estate research
20 conducted at or by the center or elsewhere, using a variety of
21 dissemination media;

22 (d) Supply research results and educational expertise to the
23 Washington state real estate commission to support its regulatory
24 functions, as requested;

25 (e) Prepare information of interest to real estate consumers and
26 make the information available to the general public, universities,
27 or colleges, and appropriate state agencies;

28 (f) Encourage economic growth and development within the state of
29 Washington;

30 (g) Support the professional development and continuing education
31 of real estate licensees in Washington;

32 (h) Study and recommend changes in state statutes relating to
33 real estate; and

34 (i) Develop a vacancy rate standard for low-income housing in the
35 state.

36 (2) The director shall establish a memorandum of understanding
37 with an institution of higher learning that establishes a real estate
38 research center for the purposes under subsection (1) of this
39 section.

1 (3) This section expires September 30, (~~2025~~) 2035.

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