
HOUSE BILL 1380

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Morton, Ballasiotes, Tate, Vance, Fuhrman, Silver, Schoesler, Sheahan, Thomas, Stevens, Reams, Dyer, Horn, Sehlin, Padden, Casada, Foreman, Brumsickle, Brough, Roland, Springer and Lisk

Read first time 01/27/93. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to appropriations based on revenue received; adding
2 a new section to chapter 43.88 RCW; creating new sections; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that state government
6 is funded by taxpayers who work hard to provide for themselves, their
7 families, their occupations, and their businesses. These persons must
8 exercise fiscal responsibility in order to meet their needs and yet
9 live within their means according to the incomes they receive. The
10 legislature further finds that basing appropriations on forecasts of
11 future revenues has driven government spending higher and higher and
12 created the need for more and more taxes.

13 The citizens of Washington state have a right to expect state
14 government to live within its means; to eliminate waste in government
15 programs and agencies; to provide efficient, cost-effective services;
16 to establish spending priorities and planning; to ensure balanced
17 budgets without imposing new taxes and other costs on taxpayers; and to
18 make appropriations based more closely on the revenues they will
19 actually receive.

1 Therefore, the legislature declares there is a substantial public
2 purpose in protecting taxpayers by ensuring state government is
3 fiscally responsible. To accomplish this purpose, it is the intent of
4 the legislature to require state government to make budgets and
5 appropriations based more closely on revenues it actually received
6 rather than on forecast of future revenues.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.88 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 All state appropriations shall be based on revenues actually
10 received during the second previous quarter. As an example, total
11 appropriations for the July through September quarter may not exceed
12 total revenues actually received from the previous January through
13 March quarter, and so forth accordingly.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act may be known and cited as "the
15 government budget and appropriation accountability act."

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If any provision of this act or its
17 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
18 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
19 persons or circumstances is not affected.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
21 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
22 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
23 effect immediately.

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