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THIRD SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5918

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Drew, Sellar, Vognild, Bluechel and Winsley)

Read first time 02/08/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to ride-sharing vehicles; adding a new section to  
2 chapter 82.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.16 RCW; creating  
3 a new section; prescribing penalties; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Transportation demand strategies that reduce  
6 the number of vehicles on Washington state's highways, roads, and  
7 streets, and provide attractive and effective alternatives to single-  
8 occupancy travel can improve ambient air quality, conserve fossil  
9 fuels, and forestall the need for capital improvements to the state's  
10 transportation system. The legislature has required many public and  
11 private employers in the state's largest counties to implement  
12 transportation demand management programs to reduce the number of  
13 single-occupant vehicle travelers during the morning and evening rush  
14 hours. The legislature finds that additional transportation demand  
15 management strategies are necessary to mitigate the adverse social,  
16 environmental, and economic effects of automobile dependency and  
17 traffic congestion. While expensive capital improvements, including  
18 dedicated busways and commuter rail systems, may be necessary to  
19 improve the region's mobility, they are only part of the solution. All

1 public and private entities that attract single-occupant vehicle  
2 drivers must develop imaginative and cost-effective ways to encourage  
3 walking, bicycling, carpooling, vanpooling, bus riding, and  
4 telecommuting. It is the intent of the legislature to revise those  
5 portions of state law that inhibit the application of imaginative  
6 solutions to the state's transportation mobility problems and to  
7 encourage many more public and private employers to adopt effective  
8 transportation demand management strategies.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 82.04 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) Major employers in the state's eight largest counties affected  
12 by the commute trip reduction programs required under RCW 70.94.521  
13 through 70.94.551 who are taxable under this chapter and provide  
14 financial incentives to their employees for ride sharing shall be  
15 allowed a credit of fifty percent of the amount paid to employees for  
16 ride sharing. The credit may not exceed one hundred twenty dollars per  
17 year for a two-person carpool, one hundred sixty dollars per year for  
18 a three-person carpool, and two hundred dollars per year for a four-  
19 person carpool.

20 (2) Application for tax credit under this chapter may only be made  
21 by major employers as defined by RCW 70.94.524 and in the form and  
22 manner prescribed by the department.

23 (3) The director shall on the 25th of February, May, August, and  
24 November of each year advise the state treasurer of the amount of  
25 credit taken during the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last  
26 day of December, March, June, and September, respectively.

27 (4) On the first of April, July, October, and January of each year,  
28 the state treasurer based upon information provided by the department  
29 shall deposit a sum equal to the dollar amount of the credit provided  
30 under subsection (1) of this section from the air pollution control  
31 account to the general fund.

32 (5) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement of a material  
33 fact in the application for a credit under subsection (1) of this  
34 section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 82.16 RCW  
36 to read as follows:

1 (1) Major employers in the state's eight largest counties affected  
2 by the commute trip reduction programs required under RCW 70.94.521  
3 through 70.94.551 who are taxable under this chapter and provide  
4 financial incentives to their employees for ride sharing shall be  
5 allowed a credit of fifty percent of the amount paid to employees for  
6 ride sharing. The credit may not exceed one hundred twenty dollars per  
7 year for a two-person carpool, one hundred sixty dollars per year for  
8 a three-person carpool, and two hundred dollars per year for a four-  
9 person carpool.

10 (2) Application for tax credit under this chapter may only be made  
11 by major employers as defined by RCW 70.94.524 and in the form and  
12 manner prescribed by the department.

13 (3) The director shall on the 25th of February, May, August, and  
14 November of each year advise the state treasurer of the amount of  
15 credit taken during the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last  
16 day of December, March, June, and September, respectively.

17 (4) On the first of April, July, October, and January of each year,  
18 the state treasurer based upon information provided by the department  
19 shall deposit a sum equal to the dollar amount of the credit provided  
20 under subsection (1) of this section from the air pollution control  
21 account to the general fund.

22 (5) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement of a material  
23 fact in the application for a credit under subsection (1) of this  
24 section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act shall expire June 30, 1996.

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