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SENATE BILL 6283

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators Hochstatter and Long

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

- 1 AN ACT Relating to K-12 public education property tax credits; and
- 2 adding a new chapter to Title 84 RCW.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The legislature is in agreement with
- 5 founding father Thomas Jefferson's statement, "To compel a man to
- 6 furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he
- 7 disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical."
- 8 The legislature further acknowledges and reaffirms Article I,
- 9 section 11 of the state Constitution: "Absolute freedom of conscience
- 10 in all matters of religious sentiment, belief and worship, shall be
- 11 guaranteed to every individual, and no one shall be molested or
- 12 disturbed in person or property on account of religion "
- 13 Therefore, to support these unalienable rights of conscience and
- 14 beliefs, the legislature hereby provides tax credits for that portion
- 15 of property taxes designated for K-12 public education for
- 16 conscientious objectors.
- 17 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A credit is allowed under this section for
- 18 taxes paid under this chapter in the following amounts:

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- 1 (1) An amount equal to that portion of the taxpayer's property 2 taxes designated for K-12 public education up to the amount of the 3 taxpayer's contribution to a private school of the taxpayer's choice 4 located within the county of the taxpayer's residence, if:
- 5 (a) The taxpayer files a notarized statement of conscientious 6 objection with the county treasurer; and
- 7 (b) The taxpayer provides the county treasurer with written proof 8 of the receipt of the contribution by the school; and
- 9 (2) If the taxpayer is a parent who through conscientious objection 10 has elected to home school the taxpayer's children, an amount equal to 11 that portion of the taxpayer's property taxes designated for K-12 12 public education up to the amount that taxpayer expended for the 13 education of the taxpayer's children, if:
- 14 (a) The taxpayer files a notarized statement of conscientious 15 objection with the county treasurer; and
- 16 (b) The taxpayer submits written receipts to the county treasurer 17 as evidence that the taxpayer expended equal funds for the education of 18 the taxpayer's children.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** This act applies to property taxes levied 20 for collection in 1999 and thereafter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 84 RCW.

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