

5900

Sponsor(s): Senators Horn, Reardon, Rossi, T. Sheldon, Mulliken, Esser and Schmidt; by request of Governor Locke

Brief Description: Changing requirements regarding state and local tax to provide for municipal business and occupation tax uniformity and fairness.

**SB 5900 - DIGEST**

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Finds that businesses in Washington are concerned about the potential for multiple taxation that arises due to the various city business and occupation taxes and are concerned about the lack of uniformity among city jurisdictions. The current system has a negative impact on Washington's business climate.

Finds, also, that local business and occupation tax revenue provides a sizable portion of city revenue that is used for essential services.

Recognizes that local government services contribute to a healthy business climate.

Declares an intent to provide for a more uniform system of city business and occupation taxes that eliminates multiple taxation, while allowing for some continued local control and flexibility to cities.