Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Transportation Committee

HB 1345

Brief Description: Modifying certain vehicle filing fees.

Sponsors: Representatives Fey, Johnson, Clibborn, Hayes and Ortiz-Self.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases, from \$3 to \$4.50, the filing fee paid when applying for a vehicle registration or any other right to operate a vehicle on state highways.
- Increases, from \$4 to \$5.50, the filing fee paid when applying for a certificate of title.

Hearing Date: 1/25/17

Staff: Patricia Hasan (786-7292).

Background:

A person who applies for a vehicle registration or for any other right to operate a vehicle on Washington highways must pay a filing fee of \$3 in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. This includes a person applying for a:

- report of sale (RCW 46.17.050);
- transitional ownership record (RCW 46.17.060);
- farm vehicle reduced gross weight license (RCW 46.17.330); or
- vessel registration (RCW 88.02.640).

A person who applies for a certificate of title must pay a filing fee of \$4 in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. This includes a person applying for a certificate of title for a vessel (RCW 88.02.640).

The filing fee distribution is dependent on the entity that collects the fee and is as follows:

• If the filing fee is paid to the county auditor or other agent or subagent appointed by the Department of Licensing (DOL) director, the fee must be distributed to the county treasurer and credited to the county current expense fund.

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- If the fee is paid to another agent of the DOL director, the fee must be used by the agent to defray his or her expenses in handling the application.
- If the fee is collected by the Washington State Patrol as agent for the DOL director, the fee must be certified to the State Treasurer and deposited to the credit of the State Patrol Highway Account.
- If the fee is collected by the Department of Transportation as agent for the DOL director, the fee must be certified to the State Treasurer and deposited to the credit of the Motor Vehicle Fund.
- If the fee is collected by the DOL director or any of the DOL branches, the fee must be certified to the State Treasurer and deposited to the credit of the Highway Safety Fund; however, \$2 of the fee must be deposited into the Multimodal Transportation Account if the fee is collected in conjunction with collecting a registration fee for a commercial trailer or private use single-axle trailer (RCW 46.17.350 (1) (c) and (k), respectively), or in conjunction with collecting a vehicle license fee by weight under RCW 46.17.355.

Summary of Bill:

The filing fee a person pays when applying for a vehicle registration or any other right to operate a vehicle on state highways is increased from \$3 to \$4.50. The filing fee a person pays when applying for a certificate of title is increased from \$4 to \$5.50.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.