

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SSB 6475

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### As Reported by House Committee On: Transportation

**Title:** An act relating to regional transit authority property taxes imposed on less than a whole parcel.

**Brief Description:** Prohibiting the imposition of regional transit authority property taxes on less than a whole parcel.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Hobbs, Palumbo, King, Wagoner, McCoy and Lias).

#### **Brief History:**

##### **Committee Activity:**

Transportation: 2/15/18, 2/21/18 [DP].

#### **Brief Summary of Substitute Bill**

- Prohibits a Regional Transit Authority from imposing a property tax on less than a whole parcel of property.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 24 members: Representatives Clibborn, Chair; Fey, Vice Chair; Wylie, Vice Chair; Orcutt, Ranking Minority Member; Hargrove, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Harmsworth, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Chapman, Gregerson, Hayes, Irwin, Kloba, Lovick, McBride, Ortiz-Self, Pellicciotti, Pike, Riccelli, Rodne, Shea, Stambaugh, Tarleton, Valdez, Van Werven and Young.

**Staff:** David Munnecke (786-7315).

#### **Background:**

A Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is authorized to use its tax revenues to develop and operate a high-capacity transportation system. There is currently one RTA, Sound Transit, which operates light rail, commuter rail service, and express bus service. The boundaries of

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the Sound Transit district generally follow the urban growth boundaries of King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties.

After the approval of the most recent system expansion plan in 2016, Sound Transit imposes the following taxes within the boundaries of the Sound Transit district:

- a sales and use tax of 1.4 percent;
- a motor vehicle excise tax of 1.1 percent;
- a property tax of 25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; and
- a rental car sales and use tax of 0.8 percent.

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**Summary of Bill:**

A RTA is prohibited from imposing a property tax on less than a whole parcel of property.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) This bill solves a problem for certain individuals within the Sound Transit district.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Senator Hobbs, prime sponsor.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.