
HOUSE BILL 2121

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Chapman, Maycumber, Tharinger, Kretz, Blake, and Fitzgibbon

Read first time 02/25/19. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing ongoing funding under the current
2 funding model to the forest and fish support account by extending the
3 current forest products business and occupation tax rate with the
4 associated surcharge in RCW 82.04.261; amending RCW 82.04.260 and
5 82.04.261; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
8 Washington state forest practices habitat conservation plan was
9 approved in 2006 by the United States fish and wildlife service and
10 the national oceanic and atmospheric administration's marine
11 fisheries service. The legislature further finds that the
12 conservation plan protects habitat of aquatic species, supports
13 economically viable and healthy forests, and creates regulatory
14 stability for landowners. The legislature further finds that funding
15 for the adaptive management program and participation grants are
16 required to implement the forest and fish agreement and meet the
17 goals of the conservation plan. The legislature further finds that
18 the surcharge on the timber products business and occupation tax rate
19 was agreed to by the forest products industry, tribal leaders, and
20 stakeholders as a way to provide funding and safeguard the future of
21 the conservation plan. The legislature further finds that the

1 forestry industry assumed significant financial obligation with the
2 enactment of this conservation plan, in exchange for operational
3 certainty under the endangered species act. Therefore, the
4 legislature concludes that the timber products business and
5 occupation tax rate and the surcharge should continue until the
6 expiration date of the forest and fish agreement, in 2056.

7 (2) The legislature finds that Washington has one of the
8 strongest economies in the country. However, the local economies in
9 some rural counties continue to struggle. The legislature further
10 finds that the economic prosperity of our state must be shared by all
11 of our communities. The legislature further finds that forest product
12 sectors provide family-wage jobs in economically struggling areas of
13 the state. The legislature further finds that in 2017 the Washington
14 forest products industry, directly and indirectly, employed one
15 hundred one thousand workers, earning 5.5 billion dollars in wages.
16 Therefore, the legislature concludes that the forest products
17 industries support our local rural economies and contribute towards
18 the effort to lower unemployment rates across the state, especially
19 in rural areas.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.04.260 and 2018 c 164 s 3 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 (1) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business
23 of manufacturing:

24 (a) Wheat into flour, barley into pearl barley, soybeans into
25 soybean oil, canola into canola oil, canola meal, or canola by-
26 products, or sunflower seeds into sunflower oil; as to such persons
27 the amount of tax with respect to such business is equal to the value
28 of the flour, pearl barley, oil, canola meal, or canola by-product
29 manufactured, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent;

30 (b) Beginning July 1, 2025, seafood products that remain in a
31 raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state at the completion of the
32 manufacturing by that person; or selling manufactured seafood
33 products that remain in a raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state at the
34 completion of the manufacturing, to purchasers who transport in the
35 ordinary course of business the goods out of this state; as to such
36 persons the amount of tax with respect to such business is equal to
37 the value of the products manufactured or the gross proceeds derived
38 from such sales, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent. Sellers
39 must keep and preserve records for the period required by RCW

1 82.32.070 establishing that the goods were transported by the
2 purchaser in the ordinary course of business out of this state;

3 (c) (i) Except as provided otherwise in (c) (iii) of this
4 subsection, from July 1, 2025, until January 1, 2036, dairy products;
5 or selling dairy products that the person has manufactured to
6 purchasers who either transport in the ordinary course of business
7 the goods out of state or purchasers who use such dairy products as
8 an ingredient or component in the manufacturing of a dairy product;
9 as to such persons the tax imposed is equal to the value of the
10 products manufactured or the gross proceeds derived from such sales
11 multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent. Sellers must keep and
12 preserve records for the period required by RCW 82.32.070
13 establishing that the goods were transported by the purchaser in the
14 ordinary course of business out of this state or sold to a
15 manufacturer for use as an ingredient or component in the
16 manufacturing of a dairy product.

17 (ii) For the purposes of this subsection (1) (c), "dairy products"
18 means:

19 (A) Products, not including any marijuana-infused product, that
20 as of September 20, 2001, are identified in 21 C.F.R., chapter 1,
21 parts 131, 133, and 135, including by-products from the manufacturing
22 of the dairy products, such as whey and casein; and

23 (B) Products comprised of not less than seventy percent dairy
24 products that qualify under (c) (ii) (A) of this subsection, measured
25 by weight or volume.

26 (iii) The preferential tax rate provided to taxpayers under this
27 subsection (1) (c) does not apply to sales of dairy products on or
28 after July 1, 2023, where a dairy product is used by the purchaser as
29 an ingredient or component in the manufacturing in Washington of a
30 dairy product;

31 (d) (i) Beginning July 1, 2025, fruits or vegetables by canning,
32 preserving, freezing, processing, or dehydrating fresh fruits or
33 vegetables, or selling at wholesale fruits or vegetables manufactured
34 by the seller by canning, preserving, freezing, processing, or
35 dehydrating fresh fruits or vegetables and sold to purchasers who
36 transport in the ordinary course of business the goods out of this
37 state; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such
38 business is equal to the value of the products manufactured or the
39 gross proceeds derived from such sales multiplied by the rate of
40 0.138 percent. Sellers must keep and preserve records for the period

1 required by RCW 82.32.070 establishing that the goods were
2 transported by the purchaser in the ordinary course of business out
3 of this state.

4 (ii) For purposes of this subsection (1)(d), "fruits" and
5 "vegetables" do not include marijuana, useable marijuana, or
6 marijuana-infused products; and

7 (e) Wood biomass fuel; as to such persons the amount of tax with
8 respect to the business is equal to the value of wood biomass fuel
9 manufactured, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent. For the
10 purposes of this section, "wood biomass fuel" means a liquid or
11 gaseous fuel that is produced from lignocellulosic feedstocks,
12 including wood, forest, (~~(+or+)~~) or field residue(~~(+)~~) and dedicated
13 energy crops, and that does not include wood treated with chemical
14 preservations such as creosote, pentachlorophenol, or copper-chrome-
15 arsenic.

16 (2) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business
17 of splitting or processing dried peas; as to such persons the amount
18 of tax with respect to such business is equal to the value of the
19 peas split or processed, multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent.

20 (3) Upon every nonprofit corporation and nonprofit association
21 engaging within this state in research and development, as to such
22 corporations and associations, the amount of tax with respect to such
23 activities is equal to the gross income derived from such activities
24 multiplied by the rate of 0.484 percent.

25 (4) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business
26 of slaughtering, breaking and/or processing perishable meat products
27 and/or selling the same at wholesale only and not at retail; as to
28 such persons the tax imposed is equal to the gross proceeds derived
29 from such sales multiplied by the rate of 0.138 percent.

30 (5) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business
31 of acting as a travel agent or tour operator; as to such persons the
32 amount of the tax with respect to such activities is equal to the
33 gross income derived from such activities multiplied by the rate of
34 0.275 percent.

35 (6) Upon every person engaging within this state in business as
36 an international steamship agent, international customs house broker,
37 international freight forwarder, vessel and/or cargo charter broker
38 in foreign commerce, and/or international air cargo agent; as to such
39 persons the amount of the tax with respect to only international

1 activities is equal to the gross income derived from such activities
2 multiplied by the rate of 0.275 percent.

3 (7) Upon every person engaging within this state in the business
4 of stevedoring and associated activities pertinent to the movement of
5 goods and commodities in waterborne interstate or foreign commerce;
6 as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business is
7 equal to the gross proceeds derived from such activities multiplied
8 by the rate of 0.275 percent. Persons subject to taxation under this
9 subsection are exempt from payment of taxes imposed by chapter 82.16
10 RCW for that portion of their business subject to taxation under this
11 subsection. Stevedoring and associated activities pertinent to the
12 conduct of goods and commodities in waterborne interstate or foreign
13 commerce are defined as all activities of a labor, service or
14 transportation nature whereby cargo may be loaded or unloaded to or
15 from vessels or barges, passing over, onto or under a wharf, pier, or
16 similar structure; cargo may be moved to a warehouse or similar
17 holding or storage yard or area to await further movement in import
18 or export or may move to a consolidation freight station and be
19 stuffed, unstuffed, containerized, separated or otherwise segregated
20 or aggregated for delivery or loaded on any mode of transportation
21 for delivery to its consignee. Specific activities included in this
22 definition are: Wharfage, handling, loading, unloading, moving of
23 cargo to a convenient place of delivery to the consignee or a
24 convenient place for further movement to export mode; documentation
25 services in connection with the receipt, delivery, checking, care,
26 custody and control of cargo required in the transfer of cargo;
27 imported automobile handling prior to delivery to consignee; terminal
28 stevedoring and incidental vessel services, including but not limited
29 to plugging and unplugging refrigerator service to containers,
30 trailers, and other refrigerated cargo receptacles, and securing ship
31 hatch covers.

32 (8) (a) Upon every person engaging within this state in the
33 business of disposing of low-level waste, as defined in RCW
34 43.145.010; as to such persons the amount of the tax with respect to
35 such business is equal to the gross income of the business, excluding
36 any fees imposed under chapter 43.200 RCW, multiplied by the rate of
37 3.3 percent.

38 (b) If the gross income of the taxpayer is attributable to
39 activities both within and without this state, the gross income

1 attributable to this state must be determined in accordance with the
2 methods of apportionment required under RCW 82.04.460.

3 (9) Upon every person engaging within this state as an insurance
4 producer or title insurance agent licensed under chapter 48.17 RCW or
5 a surplus line broker licensed under chapter 48.15 RCW; as to such
6 persons, the amount of the tax with respect to such licensed
7 activities is equal to the gross income of such business multiplied
8 by the rate of 0.484 percent.

9 (10) Upon every person engaging within this state in business as
10 a hospital, as defined in chapter 70.41 RCW, that is operated as a
11 nonprofit corporation or by the state or any of its political
12 subdivisions, as to such persons, the amount of tax with respect to
13 such activities is equal to the gross income of the business
14 multiplied by the rate of 0.75 percent through June 30, 1995, and 1.5
15 percent thereafter.

16 (11)(a) Beginning October 1, 2005, upon every person engaging
17 within this state in the business of manufacturing commercial
18 airplanes, or components of such airplanes, or making sales, at
19 retail or wholesale, of commercial airplanes or components of such
20 airplanes, manufactured by the seller, as to such persons the amount
21 of tax with respect to such business is, in the case of
22 manufacturers, equal to the value of the product manufactured and the
23 gross proceeds of sales of the product manufactured, or in the case
24 of processors for hire, equal to the gross income of the business,
25 multiplied by the rate of:

26 (i) 0.4235 percent from October 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007;
27 and

28 (ii) 0.2904 percent beginning July 1, 2007.

29 (b) Beginning July 1, 2008, upon every person who is not eligible
30 to report under the provisions of (a) of this subsection (11) and is
31 engaging within this state in the business of manufacturing tooling
32 specifically designed for use in manufacturing commercial airplanes
33 or components of such airplanes, or making sales, at retail or
34 wholesale, of such tooling manufactured by the seller, as to such
35 persons the amount of tax with respect to such business is, in the
36 case of manufacturers, equal to the value of the product manufactured
37 and the gross proceeds of sales of the product manufactured, or in
38 the case of processors for hire, be equal to the gross income of the
39 business, multiplied by the rate of 0.2904 percent.

1 (c) For the purposes of this subsection (11), "commercial
2 airplane" and "component" have the same meanings as provided in RCW
3 82.32.550.

4 (d) In addition to all other requirements under this title, a
5 person reporting under the tax rate provided in this subsection (11)
6 must file a complete annual tax performance report with the
7 department under RCW 82.32.534.

8 (e)(i) Except as provided in (e)(ii) of this subsection (11),
9 this subsection (11) does not apply on and after July 1, 2040.

10 (ii) With respect to the manufacturing of commercial airplanes or
11 making sales, at retail or wholesale, of commercial airplanes, this
12 subsection (11) does not apply on and after July 1st of the year in
13 which the department makes a determination that any final assembly or
14 wing assembly of any version or variant of a commercial airplane that
15 is the basis of a siting of a significant commercial airplane
16 manufacturing program in the state under RCW 82.32.850 has been sited
17 outside the state of Washington. This subsection (11)(e)(ii) only
18 applies to the manufacturing or sale of commercial airplanes that are
19 the basis of a siting of a significant commercial airplane
20 manufacturing program in the state under RCW 82.32.850.

21 (12)(a) Until July 1, (~~2024~~) 2036, upon every person engaging
22 within this state in the business of extracting timber or extracting
23 for hire timber; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to
24 the business is, in the case of extractors, equal to the value of
25 products, including by-products, extracted, or in the case of
26 extractors for hire, equal to the gross income of the business,
27 multiplied by the rate of 0.4235 percent from July 1, 2006, through
28 June 30, 2007, and 0.2904 percent from July 1, 2007, through June 30,
29 (~~2024~~) 2036.

30 (b) Until July 1, (~~2024~~) 2036, upon every person engaging
31 within this state in the business of manufacturing or processing for
32 hire: (i) Timber into timber products or wood products; or (ii)
33 timber products into other timber products or wood products; as to
34 such persons the amount of the tax with respect to the business is,
35 in the case of manufacturers, equal to the value of products,
36 including by-products, manufactured, or in the case of processors for
37 hire, equal to the gross income of the business, multiplied by the
38 rate of 0.4235 percent from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007, and
39 0.2904 percent from July 1, 2007, through June 30, (~~2024~~) 2036.

1 (c) Until July 1, (~~2024~~) 2036, upon every person engaging
2 within this state in the business of selling at wholesale: (i) Timber
3 extracted by that person; (ii) timber products manufactured by that
4 person from timber or other timber products; or (iii) wood products
5 manufactured by that person from timber or timber products; as to
6 such persons the amount of the tax with respect to the business is
7 equal to the gross proceeds of sales of the timber, timber products,
8 or wood products multiplied by the rate of 0.4235 percent from July
9 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007, and 0.2904 percent from July 1, 2007,
10 through June 30, (~~2024~~) 2036.

11 (d) Until July 1, (~~2024~~) 2036, upon every person engaging
12 within this state in the business of selling standing timber; as to
13 such persons the amount of the tax with respect to the business is
14 equal to the gross income of the business multiplied by the rate of
15 0.2904 percent. For purposes of this subsection (12)(d), "selling
16 standing timber" means the sale of timber apart from the land, where
17 the buyer is required to sever the timber within thirty months from
18 the date of the original contract, regardless of the method of
19 payment for the timber and whether title to the timber transfers
20 before, upon, or after severance.

21 (e) For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions
22 apply:

23 (i) "Biocomposite surface products" means surface material
24 products containing, by weight or volume, more than fifty percent
25 recycled paper and that also use nonpetroleum-based phenolic resin as
26 a bonding agent.

27 (ii) "Paper and paper products" means products made of interwoven
28 cellulosic fibers held together largely by hydrogen bonding. "Paper
29 and paper products" includes newsprint; office, printing, fine, and
30 pressure-sensitive papers; paper napkins, towels, and toilet tissue;
31 kraft bag, construction, and other kraft industrial papers;
32 paperboard, liquid packaging containers, containerboard, corrugated,
33 and solid-fiber containers including linerboard and corrugated
34 medium; and related types of cellulosic products containing
35 primarily, by weight or volume, cellulosic materials. "Paper and
36 paper products" does not include books, newspapers, magazines,
37 periodicals, and other printed publications, advertising materials,
38 calendars, and similar types of printed materials.

39 (iii) "Recycled paper" means paper and paper products having
40 fifty percent or more of their fiber content that comes from

1 postconsumer waste. For purposes of this subsection (12)(e)(iii),
2 "postconsumer waste" means a finished material that would normally be
3 disposed of as solid waste, having completed its life cycle as a
4 consumer item.

5 (iv) "Timber" means forest trees, standing or down, on privately
6 or publicly owned land. "Timber" does not include Christmas trees
7 that are cultivated by agricultural methods or short-rotation
8 hardwoods as defined in RCW 84.33.035.

9 (v) "Timber products" means:

10 (A) Logs, wood chips, sawdust, wood waste, and similar products
11 obtained wholly from the processing of timber, short-rotation
12 hardwoods as defined in RCW 84.33.035, or both;

13 (B) Pulp, including market pulp and pulp derived from recovered
14 paper or paper products; and

15 (C) Recycled paper, but only when used in the manufacture of
16 biocomposite surface products.

17 (vi) "Wood products" means paper and paper products; dimensional
18 lumber; engineered wood products such as particleboard, oriented
19 strand board, medium density fiberboard, and plywood; wood doors;
20 wood windows; and biocomposite surface products.

21 (f) Except for small harvesters as defined in RCW 84.33.035, a
22 person reporting under the tax rate provided in this subsection (12)
23 must file a complete annual tax performance report with the
24 department under RCW 82.32.534.

25 (13) Upon every person engaging within this state in inspecting,
26 testing, labeling, and storing canned salmon owned by another person,
27 as to such persons, the amount of tax with respect to such activities
28 is equal to the gross income derived from such activities multiplied
29 by the rate of 0.484 percent.

30 (14)(a) Upon every person engaging within this state in the
31 business of printing a newspaper, publishing a newspaper, or both,
32 the amount of tax on such business is equal to the gross income of
33 the business multiplied by the rate of 0.35 percent until July 1,
34 2024, and 0.484 percent thereafter.

35 (b) A person reporting under the tax rate provided in this
36 subsection (14) must file a complete annual tax performance report
37 with the department under RCW 82.32.534.

38 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.04.261 and 2017 c 323 s 501 are each amended to
39 read as follows:

1 (1) In addition to the taxes imposed under RCW 82.04.260(12), a
2 surcharge is imposed on those persons who are subject to any of the
3 taxes imposed under RCW 82.04.260(12). Except as otherwise provided
4 in this section, the surcharge is equal to 0.052 percent. The
5 surcharge is added to the rates provided in RCW 82.04.260(12) (a),
6 (b), (c), and (d). (~~The surcharge and this section expire July 1,~~
7 ~~2024.~~)

8 (2) All receipts from the surcharge imposed under this section
9 must be deposited into the forest and fish support account created in
10 RCW 76.09.405.

11 (3)(a) The surcharge imposed under this section is suspended if:

12 (i) Receipts from the surcharge total at least eight million
13 dollars during any fiscal biennium; or

14 (ii) The office of financial management certifies to the
15 department that the federal government has appropriated at least two
16 million dollars for participation in forest and fish report-related
17 activities by federally recognized Indian tribes located within the
18 geographical boundaries of the state of Washington for any federal
19 fiscal year.

20 (b)(i) The suspension of the surcharge under (a)(i) of this
21 subsection (3) takes effect on the first day of the calendar month
22 that is at least thirty days after the end of the month during which
23 the department determines that receipts from the surcharge total at
24 least eight million dollars during the fiscal biennium. The surcharge
25 is imposed again at the beginning of the following fiscal biennium.

26 (ii) The suspension of the surcharge under (a)(ii) of this
27 subsection (3) takes effect on the later of the first day of October
28 of any federal fiscal year for which the federal government
29 appropriates at least two million dollars for participation in forest
30 and fish report-related activities by federally recognized Indian
31 tribes located within the geographical boundaries of the state of
32 Washington, or the first day of a calendar month that is at least
33 thirty days following the date that the office of financial
34 management makes a certification to the department under subsection
35 (5) of this section. The surcharge is imposed again on the first day
36 of the following July.

37 (4)(a) If, by October 1st of any federal fiscal year, the office
38 of financial management certifies to the department that the federal
39 government has appropriated funds for participation in forest and
40 fish report-related activities by federally recognized Indian tribes

1 located within the geographical boundaries of the state of Washington
2 but the amount of the appropriation is less than two million dollars,
3 the department must adjust the surcharge in accordance with this
4 subsection.

5 (b) The department must adjust the surcharge by an amount that
6 the department estimates will cause the amount of funds deposited
7 into the forest and fish support account for the state fiscal year
8 that begins July 1st and that includes the beginning of the federal
9 fiscal year for which the federal appropriation is made, to be
10 reduced by twice the amount of the federal appropriation for
11 participation in forest and fish report-related activities by
12 federally recognized Indian tribes located within the geographical
13 boundaries of the state of Washington.

14 (c) Any adjustment in the surcharge takes effect at the beginning
15 of a calendar month that is at least thirty days after the date that
16 the office of financial management makes the certification under
17 subsection (5) of this section.

18 (d) The surcharge is imposed again at the rate provided in
19 subsection (1) of this section on the first day of the following
20 state fiscal year unless the surcharge is suspended under subsection
21 (3) of this section or adjusted for that fiscal year under this
22 subsection.

23 (e) Adjustments of the amount of the surcharge by the department
24 are final and may not be used to challenge the validity of the
25 surcharge imposed under this section.

26 (f) The department must provide timely notice to affected
27 taxpayers of the suspension of the surcharge or an adjustment of the
28 surcharge.

29 (5) The office of financial management must make the
30 certification to the department as to the status of federal
31 appropriations for tribal participation in forest and fish report-
32 related activities.

33 (6) This section expires July 1, 2036.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The provisions of RCW 82.32.808 do not
35 apply to this act.

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