
Appropriations Committee

2SSB 5616

Brief Description: Concerning accounts.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senator Rolfes; by request of Office of Financial Management).

Brief Summary of Second Substitute Bill

- Revises a number of dedicated accounts.
- Makes the Manufacturing Cluster Acceleration Subaccount and the Driver Licensing Technology Support Subaccount into separate accounts.
- Reenacts five accounts created or revised in 2021-23 omnibus operating appropriation bill.
- Creates the Clean Energy Transition Workforce Account.
- Eliminates three inactive accounts.

Hearing Date: 2/22/22

Staff: Charlie Gavigan (786-7340).

Background:

Moneys received by public agencies are deposited into a variety of accounts (sometimes referred to as funds). In addition to the State General Fund, which may be expended for any lawful purpose, the state maintains several hundred accounts dedicated to specified statutory purposes. These accounts generally fall into one of the three following categories:

- accounts located in the State Treasury, which require appropriation by the Legislature;
- accounts held in the custody of the State Treasurer, which may or may not require

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- legislative appropriation; and
- accounts located in state agencies and institutions of higher education, known as local accounts, which may require allotment/approval of spending by the Office of Financial Management.

Accounts are generally created in policy bills for the purpose of dedicating moneys in the account for the policy purposes of the bill. Accounts are also created in omnibus appropriation bills to dedicate funding for specific purposes and appropriations. Expenditures from dedicated accounts are limited to the purposes specified in the account's authorizing language, and therefore, legislative action is required to temporarily or permanently expand or further restrict the purposes of a dedicated account.

Summary of Bill:

The following five accounts are revised:

- the Manufacturing Cluster Acceleration Subaccount of the Economic Development Strategic Reserve is made a separate account;
- the Driver Licensing Technology Support Subaccount of the Highway Safety Fund is made a separate account;
- the Energy Efficiency Account is revised to allow moneys to be used for loans, loan guarantees, and grants for projects that achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions for emissions-intensive, trade-exposed industries;
- the SR 520 Civil Penalties Account is revised to remove language associated with prior fiscal periods; and
- the Transportation Partnership Account created in 2005 is placed in the Motor Vehicle Fund.

The following accounts are revised to incorporate the allowable uses that have appeared as temporary biennial uses in multiple operating budgets:

- Disaster Response Account;
- Personnel Service Fund;
- State Treasurers Service Fund;
- Performance Audits of State Government;
- Public Works Assistance Account;
- Criminal Justice Treatment Account;
- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account;
- Liquor Excise Tax Account;
- County Criminal Justice Assistance Account; and
- Water Pollution Control Revolving Administration Account.

The following accounts created or revised in the 2021-23 Omnibus Operating Appropriation Bill are reenacted:

- Forest Resiliency Account;

- Washington Rescue Plan Transition Account;
- Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund;
- COVID-19 Public Health Response Account; and
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III Account.

The Clean Energy Transition Workforce Account is created to provide dedicated funding for programs and services related to workers who are affected by the state's transition away from fossil fuels to a clean energy economy and associated program administrative expenses.

The following accounts are eliminated:

- Veterans Conservation Corps Account;
- Dedicated McCleary Penalty Account; and
- Special Personnel Litigation Revolving Account.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill contains several effective dates. Please refer to the bill.