

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5150

As of January 18, 2023

Title: An act relating to the beef commission's levied assessment.

Brief Description: Concerning the beef commission's levied assessment.

Sponsors: Senator Shewmake.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks: 1/19/23.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases the state portion of the beef checkoff fee from \$1 to \$2.50.
- Exempts \$1.50 of the \$2.50 state portion from being applied at the first point of sale for green tag calves.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER, NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS

Staff: Delika Steele (786-7486)

Background: The Washington State Beef Commission (commission) was created by statute in 1969. It is composed of two beef producers, two dairy-beef producers, two feeders, one livestock saleyard operator, one meat packer, and a representative of the Department of Agriculture, who is a voting member.

A state assessment of \$1 per head of Washington cattle is levied at the sale of the cattle for the commission. The commission may collect an additional assessments of \$0.50 per head for cattle subject to assessment under a federal order for providing funds for a national beef promotion and research program.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Green tags are assigned to Grade A dairy cattle leaving the dairy business and entering the human food chain. The green tag is affixed to the calf's ear.

Summary of Bill: The commission's per head assessment is increased from \$1 to \$2.50 on all sales of Washington cattle, with the overall beef checkoff fee increasing to \$3.00. The \$1.50 increase will go to Washington State with the \$0.50 fee to the federal government remaining the same. At the first point of sale for a green tag calf, \$1.50 of the \$2.50 assessment may not be collected.

The commission must submit to a report to the Legislature describing the commission's activities and expenditures by January 1st of each year.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.