SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1532

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By House Finance (originally sponsored by Representatives Stearns, Entenman, Obras, Gregerson, and Bergquist)

READ FIRST TIME 02/26/25.

AN ACT Relating to authorizing funding tools to mitigate the impact of sales tax sourcing and enhance community vitality in certain cities that host industrial and warehousing industries that are vital to the statewide economy; adding a new section to chapter 82.14 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. The legislature finds that additional Sec. 1. 8 funding tools are needed to improve community vitality in the 9 industrial and warehousing valley located near the port of Seattle 10 and the port of Tacoma. Sales tax sourcing laws created a significant negative fiscal impact on this community thereby impacting the 11 12 quality of life of residents in the valley. The valley is a vital job 13 center to Washington state's economy and is one of the most diverse 14 communities in the state. At the same time, with a concentration of 15 warehousing, manufacturing, and shipping businesses, this community 16 experiences negative impacts on resources that other communities do 17 not experience. Furthermore, the legislature recognizes the dedicated 18 funding in RCW 82.14.545 for the manufacturing and warehousing job centers account, RCW 82.14.550, is scheduled to expire on July 1, 19 2026. The legislature hereby authorizes new funding tools for these 20

1 communities to generate revenue necessary to improve community
2 vitality.

3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 82.14 4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) The legislative body of certain authorized cities, as 6 described in subsection (2) of this section, may authorize, fix, and 7 impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of this 8 chapter. The ordinance or resolution to impose the tax adopted by 9 legislative body must include the attestation that the city meets the 10 definition of an authorized city in subsection (5) of this section.

11 (2) The tax authorized in this section is in addition to any 12 other taxes authorized by law and must be collected from those 13 persons who are taxable by the state under chapters 82.08 and 82.12 14 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within a city imposing 15 the tax. The rate of tax equals up to 0.3 percent of the selling 16 price in the case of a sales tax, or a value of article used, in the 17 case of a use tax.

18 (3) Moneys collected under this section may be used for any 19 purpose that improves the vitality of the community in the same 20 manner that general fund revenues may be used.

(4) A city using the authority under this section shall engage in
 the following public process each time it adopts a biennial budget:

(a) Hold a minimum of three town hall meetings within the city,
 each at a different geographical location and at a different time of
 the day, explaining the budget process and providing opportunities
 for community member dialogue;

(b) Provide a webpage outlining the budget development process, the dates for scheduled budget hearings, and where to find budget information; and

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(c) Conduct a survey to solicit input on budget priorities.

31 (5) For purposes of this section, an "authorized city" means a 32 city that:

33 (a) Has a population greater than 120,000;

34 (b) Is located in a county with a population of 1,500,000 or 35 greater; and

36 (c) Has a percentage of total assessed valuation from industrial 37 and warehousing industries that is greater than 25 percent.

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