
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6072

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Highways & Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Horn and Haugen)

READ FIRST TIME 04/11/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding pollution abatement and response; adding
2 new sections to chapter 70.94 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
3 90.56 RCW; making appropriations; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.94 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 In addition to other fees and taxes required under this chapter,
8 registered owners of motor vehicles as defined in RCW 46.04.320 shall
9 annually, upon renewal, pay a clean air/water fee of one dollar and
10 twenty-five cents. One dollar of the proceeds from the clean air/water
11 fee must be deposited in a segregated subaccount of the air pollution
12 control account created in RCW 70.94.015, and twenty-five cents of the
13 proceeds from the clean air/water fee must be deposited in the vessel
14 response account in section 4 of this act. The department of licensing
15 shall itemize the fee imposed in this section on the vehicle
16 registration renewal notice by indicating the amount of the fee and the
17 purposes for which the fee is imposed.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.94 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) Money from the fee under section 1 of this act that is
4 deposited in the segregated subaccount of the air pollution control
5 account created in RCW 70.94.015 may be used for the purposes of this
6 chapter, including the following:

7 (a) Retrofitting school buses with exhaust emission control
8 devices;

9 (b) Reducing vehicle air contaminant emissions and cleaning up air
10 pollution;

11 (c) Reducing and monitoring toxic air contaminants;

12 (d) Providing funding for fueling infrastructure necessary to allow
13 school bus fleets to use alternative, cleaner fuels.

14 (2) Money from the clean air/water fee under section 1 of this act
15 deposited in the segregated subaccount of the air pollution control
16 account created in RCW 70.94.015 is subject to distribution as follows:

17 (a) Eighty-five percent of the money must be distributed to the air
18 pollution control authorities created under this chapter. The money
19 must be distributed in direct proportion with the amount of fees
20 imposed under section 1 of this act that are collected within the
21 boundaries of each authority. However, an amount in direct proportion
22 with those fees collected in counties for which no air pollution
23 control authority exists must be distributed to the department.

24 (b) Fifteen percent of the money must be distributed to the
25 department and used by the department for the following purposes:

26 (i) Retrofitting school buses with exhaust emission control
27 devices;

28 (ii) Reducing vehicle air contaminant emissions and cleaning up air
29 pollution;

30 (iii) Reducing and monitoring toxic air contaminants;

31 (iv) Providing funding for fueling infrastructure necessary to
32 allow school bus fleets to use alternative, cleaner fuels.

33 (3) Money in the air pollution control account may be spent by the
34 department only after appropriation.

35 (4) The department shall provide a report to the legislative
36 transportation committees on the progress of the implementation of this
37 section by December 31, 2004.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of ten million dollars is
2 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 2005, from the segregated
3 subaccount of the air pollution control account, created in section 1
4 of this act, to the department of ecology for the purposes of section
5 2 of this act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 90.56 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The vessel response account is created in the state treasury.
9 Grants, gifts, and federal funds may be deposited into the account.
10 Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. The
11 department of ecology is authorized to utilize the vessel response
12 account to preposition a dedicated rescue tug at the entrance to the
13 Strait of Juan de Fuca to reduce the risk of major maritime accidents
14 and oil spills on the outer coast and western strait. Prior to
15 authorizing the rescue tug to respond to a distressed vessel, the
16 department shall work with the United States Coast Guard and industry
17 to determine if another capable, unencumbered commercial tug is
18 available in the area that can respond. If such a tug can respond
19 without increasing the risk of a casualty, it should be deployed as the
20 tug of choice and the state-contracted rescue tug should not be taken
21 off standby duty. The department is also authorized to spot charter
22 tugs as needed during major storms and other high risk periods to
23 protect maritime commerce and the environment anywhere in state waters.

24 The department shall not proceed with rule making related to
25 emergency towing pursuant to chapter 88.46 RCW, so long as the deposit
26 of the fee into the vessel response account under section 1 of this act
27 is continued.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of two million six hundred
29 seventy-six thousand dollars is appropriated for the biennium ending
30 June 30, 2005, from the vessel response account to the department of
31 ecology for the purposes of section 4 of this act.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Section 1 of this act expires July 1, 2008.

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