

ESSB 5251 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Transportation

NOT CONSIDERED 04/22/2011

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the motor  
4 vehicle fuel tax is the primary source of funding for the state's  
5 transportation system. As the state's fleet changes from motor  
6 vehicles powered by traditional sources, such as gasoline and diesel,  
7 to those powered by electricity, the ability of the state to fund the  
8 maintenance and preservation of the transportation system is  
9 compromised. In order to mitigate the impacts of the diminishing motor  
10 vehicle fuel tax, and to create a system where each driver pays for a  
11 fair portion of his or her use of the road, an additional fee is  
12 imposed on electric vehicles.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.17 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) Before accepting an application for an annual vehicle  
16 registration renewal for an electric vehicle that uses propulsion units  
17 powered solely by electricity, the department, county auditor or other  
18 agent, or subagent appointed by the director must require the applicant  
19 to pay a one hundred dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes  
20 required by law. The one hundred dollar fee is due at the time of  
21 annual vehicle registration renewal.

22 (2) This section only applies to:

23 (a) A vehicle that is designed to have the capability to drive at  
24 a speed of more than thirty-five miles per hour; and

25 (b) An annual vehicle registration renewal that is due on or after  
26 March 1, 2012.

27 (3)(a) The fee under this section is imposed to provide funds to  
28 mitigate the impact of vehicles on state roads and highways, and is  
29 separate and distinct from other vehicle license fees. Proceeds from

1 the fee must be used for highway purposes, and must be deposited in the  
2 motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070, subject to (b) of this  
3 subsection.

4 (b) If in any year the amount of proceeds from the fee collected  
5 under this section exceeds one million dollars, the excess amount over  
6 one million dollars must be deposited as follows:

7 (i) Seventy percent to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW  
8 46.68.070;

9 (ii) Fifteen percent to the transportation improvement account  
10 created in RCW 47.26.084; and

11 (iii) Fifteen percent to the rural arterial trust account created  
12 in RCW 36.79.020.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 2 of this act expires on the  
14 effective date of legislation enacted by the legislature that imposes  
15 a vehicle miles traveled fee or tax.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of licensing must provide  
17 written notice of the expiration date of section 2 of this act to  
18 affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the  
19 secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as  
20 deemed appropriate by the department."

21 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Removes the \$100 fee requirement at the time of original  
registration, making the fee due only at the time of the annual vehicle  
registration renewal that is due on or after March 1, 2012.

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