H-1415.3		

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1025

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By House Labor & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller, Appleton, Ormsby, and Pollet)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/13.

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- AN ACT Relating to extending the application of prevailing wage requirements; amending RCW 39.12.010, 39.12.030, 39.12.040, 39.12.042,
- 3 39.12.050, 39.12.065, 39.12.070, 82.60.025, 82.75.010, 82.82.010,
- 4 82.08.820, 82.08.900, 82.08.955, and 82.12.955; reenacting and amending
- 5 RCW 82.63.010; and adding new sections to chapter 39.12 RCW.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 39.12.010 and 1989 c 12 s 6 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
- (1) The "prevailing rate of wage," for the intents and purposes of 9 10 this chapter, shall be the rate of hourly wage, usual benefits, and 11 overtime paid in the locality, as hereinafter defined, to the majority of workers, laborers, or mechanics, in the same trade or occupation. 12 13 In the event that there is not a majority in the same trade or 14 occupation paid at the same rate, then the average rate of hourly wage 15 and overtime paid to such laborers, workers, or mechanics in the same 16 trade or occupation shall be the prevailing rate. If the wage paid by

any public work is based on some period of time other than an hour, the

any contractor or subcontractor to laborers, workers, or mechanics on

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1 hourly wage for the purposes of this chapter shall be mathematically 2 determined by the number of hours worked in such period of time.

- (2) The "locality" for the purposes of this chapter shall be the largest city in the county wherein the physical work is being performed.
- (3) The "usual benefits" for the purposes of this chapter shall include the amount of:
- (a) The rate of contribution irrevocably made by a contractor or subcontractor to a trustee or to a third person pursuant to a fund, plan, or program; and
- (b) The rate of costs to the contractor or subcontractor which may be reasonably anticipated in providing benefits to workers, laborers, and mechanics pursuant to an enforceable commitment to carry out a financially responsible plan or program which was communicated in writing to the workers, laborers, and mechanics affected, for medical or hospital care, pensions on retirement or death, compensation for injuries or illness resulting from occupational activity, or insurance to provide any of the foregoing, for unemployment benefits, life insurance, disability and sickness insurance, or accident insurance, for vacation and holiday pay, for defraying costs of apprenticeship or other similar programs, or for other bona fide fringe benefits, but only where the contractor or subcontractor is not required by other federal, state, or local law to provide any of such benefits.
- (4) An "interested party" for the purposes of this chapter shall include a contractor, subcontractor, an employee of a contractor or subcontractor, an organization whose members' wages, benefits, and conditions of employment are affected by this chapter, and the director of labor and industries or the director's designee.
- 29 <u>(5)(a) "Subsidized public work" means all work, construction,</u> 30 <u>alterations, repairs, or improvements other than ordinary maintenance</u> 31 <u>where:</u>
 - (i) One or more parties to the contract for the project received or will receive a qualifying tax preference for the project; or
- (ii) One or more parties to the contract for the project received
 or will receive a loan for the project from the state or any county,
 municipality, or political subdivision.
 - (b) "Subsidized public work" does not include:

1 (i) Work financed by a loan provided by a housing authority created 2 pursuant to chapter 35.82 RCW; or

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- (ii) Affordable housing projects that receive financing from the Washington state housing finance commission and are not subject to federal prevailing wage requirements.
- 6 (6) "Qualifying tax preference" means a tax preference under 7 chapter 82.60, 82.63, 82.75, or 82.82 RCW, or RCW 82.08.820, 82.08.900, 8 82.08.955, 82.12.900, or 82.12.955.
- 9 (7) "Subsidy recipient" means the private party to a contract for 10 subsidized public work who received a tax preference or received a 11 public loan as described in subsection (5)(a) of this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 39.12 RCW to read as follows:
- 14 (1) The requirements of this chapter apply to subsidized public works projects.
- (2) Upon request from a party to a contract for subsidized public work, as defined in RCW 39.12.010(5)(a)(i), the department of labor and industries must provide written certification of the party's compliance with this chapter.
- 20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 39.12.030 and 2009 c 62 s 1 are each amended to read 21 as follows:
 - (1) The specifications for every contract for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance, or repair of any public work ((to which the state or any county, municipality, or political subdivision created by its laws is a party,)) shall contain a provision stating the hourly minimum rate of wage, not less than the prevailing rate of wage, which may be paid to laborers, workers, or mechanics in each trade or occupation required for such public work employed in the performance of the contract either by the contractor, subcontractor, or other person doing or contracting to do the whole or any part of the work contemplated by the contract, and the contract shall contain a stipulation that such laborers, workers, or mechanics shall be paid not less than such specified hourly minimum rate of wage. If the awarding agency or subsidy recipient determines that the work contracted for meets the definition of residential construction, the contract must include that information.

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(2) If the hourly minimum rate of wage stated in the contract specifies residential construction rates and it is later determined that the work performed is commercial and subject to commercial construction rates, the state, county, municipality, ((or)) political subdivision, or subsidy recipient that entered into the contract must pay the difference between the residential rate stated and the actual commercial rate to the contractor, subcontractor, or other person doing or contracting to do the whole or any part of the work under the contract.

- Sec. 4. RCW 39.12.040 and 2012 c 129 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, before payment is made by or on behalf of the state, or any county, municipality, or political subdivision created by its laws, or any subsidy recipient of any sum or sums due on account of a public works contract, it shall be the duty of the officer or person charged with the custody and disbursement of ((public)) funds to require the contractor and each and every subcontractor from the contractor or a subcontractor to submit to such officer a "Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages." For a contract in excess of ten thousand dollars, the statement of intent to pay prevailing wages shall include:
- (a) The contractor's registration certificate number; and
 - (b) The prevailing rate of wage for each classification of workers entitled to prevailing wages under RCW 39.12.020 and the estimated number of workers in each classification.

Each statement of intent to pay prevailing wages must be approved by the industrial statistician of the department of labor and industries before it is submitted to the disbursing officer or person. Unless otherwise authorized by the department of labor and industries, each voucher claim submitted by a contractor for payment on a project estimate shall state that the prevailing wages have been paid in accordance with the prefiled statement or statements of intent to pay prevailing wages on file with the public agency or subsidy recipient. Following the final acceptance of a public works project, it shall be the duty of the officer charged with the disbursement of public funds((τ)) to require the contractor and each and every subcontractor from the contractor or a subcontractor to submit to such officer an

"affidavit of wages paid" before the funds retained according to the provisions of RCW 60.28.011 are released to the contractor. subsidized public works, following the contract completion date of the project, it shall be the duty of the person employed by a subsidy recipient who is charged with the disbursement of funds to require the contractor and each and every subcontractor to submit to such person an "affidavit of wages paid" before final payment is made to the contractor. If a subcontractor performing work on a public works project fails to submit an "affidavit of wages paid" form, the contractor or subcontractor with whom the subcontractor had a contractual relationship for the project may file the forms on behalf of the nonresponsive subcontractor. Affidavit forms may only be filed on behalf of a nonresponsive subcontractor who has ceased operations or failed to file as required by this section. Filings made on behalf of a subcontractor may not be accepted sooner than thirty-one days after the acceptance date of the public works project ((and)) or contract completion date of a subsidized public works project. The contractor filing the affidavit must accept responsibility for payment of prevailing wages unpaid by the subcontractor on the project pursuant to RCW 39.12.020 and 39.12.065. Intentionally filing a false affidavit on behalf of a subcontractor subjects the filer to the same penalties as are provided in RCW 39.12.050. Each affidavit of wages paid must be certified by the industrial statistician of the department of labor and industries before it is submitted to the disbursing officer or person.

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- (2) As an alternate to the procedures provided for in subsection (1) of this section, for public works projects of two thousand five hundred dollars or less and for projects where the limited public works process under RCW 39.04.155(3) is followed:
- (a) An awarding agency <u>or subsidy recipient</u> may authorize the contractor or subcontractor to submit the statement of intent to pay prevailing wages directly to the officer or person charged with the custody or disbursement of ((public)) funds in the awarding agency <u>or subsidy recipient</u> without approval by the industrial statistician of the department of labor and industries. The awarding agency <u>or subsidy recipient</u> shall retain such statement of intent to pay prevailing wages for a period of not less than three years.
- (b) Upon final acceptance of the public works project, or upon the contract completion date of a subsidized public works project, the

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awarding agency or subsidy recipient shall require the contractor or subcontractor to submit an affidavit of wages paid. Upon receipt of the affidavit of wages paid, the awarding agency or subsidy recipient may pay the contractor or subcontractor in full, including funds that would otherwise be retained according to the provisions of RCW Within thirty days of receipt of the affidavit of wages paid, the awarding agency or subsidy recipient shall submit the affidavit of wages paid to the industrial statistician of the department of labor and industries for approval.

- (c) A statement of intent to pay prevailing wages and an affidavit of wages paid shall be on forms approved by the department of labor and industries.
- (d) In the event of a wage claim and a finding for the claimant by the department of labor and industries where the awarding agency or subsidy recipient has used the alternative process provided for in subsection (2) of this section, the awarding agency or subsidy recipient shall pay the wages due directly to the claimant. If the contractor or subcontractor did not pay the wages stated in the affidavit of wages paid, the awarding agency or subsidy recipient may take action at law to seek reimbursement from the contractor or subcontractor of wages paid to the claimant, and may prohibit the contractor or subcontractor from bidding on any public works contract of the awarding agency or subsidy recipient for up to one year.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to allow an awarding agency or subsidy recipient to subdivide any public works project of more than two thousand five hundred dollars for the purpose of circumventing the procedures required by subsection (1) of this section.
- **Sec. 5.** RCW 39.12.042 and 1993 c 404 s 3 are each amended to read 30 as follows:

If any agency of the state, or any county, municipality, or political subdivision created by its laws, or any subsidy recipient shall knowingly fail to comply with the provisions of RCW 39.12.040 as now or hereafter amended, ((such agency of the state, or county, municipality, or political subdivision created by its laws,)) it shall be liable to all workers, laborers, or mechanics to the full extent and

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for the full amount of wages due, pursuant to the prevailing wage requirements of RCW 39.12.020.

- Sec. 6. RCW 39.12.050 and 2009 c 219 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Any contractor or subcontractor who files a false statement or fails to file any statement or record required to be filed under this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter((τ)) shall, after a determination to that effect has been issued by the director after hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW, forfeit as a civil penalty the sum of five hundred dollars for each false filing or failure to file, and shall not be permitted to bid, or have a bid considered, on any public works contract until the penalty has been paid in full to the director. The civil penalty under this subsection shall not apply to a violation determined by the director to be an inadvertent filing or reporting error. Civil penalties shall be deposited in the public works administration account.

To the extent that a contractor or subcontractor has not paid wages at the rate due pursuant to RCW 39.12.020, and a finding to that effect has been made as provided by this subsection, such unpaid wages shall constitute a lien against the bonds and retainage as provided in RCW 18.27.040, 19.28.041, 39.08.010, section 9 of this act, and 60.28.011.

- (2) If a contractor or subcontractor is found to have violated the provisions of subsection (1) of this section for a second time within a five_year period, the contractor or subcontractor shall be subject to the sanctions prescribed in subsection (1) of this section and shall not be allowed to bid on any public works contract for one year. The one_year period shall run from the date of notice by the director of the determination of noncompliance. When an appeal is taken from the director's determination, the one_year period shall commence from the date of the final determination of the appeal.
- 31 The director shall issue his or her findings that a contractor or 32 subcontractor has violated the provisions of this subsection after a 33 hearing held subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW.
- **Sec. 7.** RCW 39.12.065 and 2009 c 219 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Upon complaint by an interested party, the director of labor

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and industries shall cause an investigation to be made to determine whether there has been compliance with this chapter and the rules adopted hereunder, and, if the investigation indicates that a violation may have occurred, a hearing shall be held in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. The director shall issue a written determination including his or her findings after the hearing. A judicial appeal from the director's determination may be taken in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, with the prevailing party entitled to recover reasonable costs and attorneys' fees.

A complaint concerning nonpayment of the prevailing rate of wage shall be filed with the department of labor and industries no later than thirty days from the acceptance date of the public works project. The failure to timely file such a complaint shall not prohibit a claimant from pursuing a private right of action against a contractor or subcontractor for unpaid prevailing wages. The remedy provided by this section is not exclusive and is concurrent with any other remedy provided by law.

- (2) To the extent that a contractor or subcontractor has not paid the prevailing rate of wage under a determination issued as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the director shall notify the agency or subsidy recipient awarding the public works contract of the amount of the violation found, and the awarding agency shall withhold, or in the case of a bond, the director shall proceed against the bond in accordance with the applicable statute to recover, such amount from the following sources in the following order of priority until the total of such amount is withheld:
- (a) The retainage or bond in lieu of retainage as provided in RCW 60.28.011;
 - (b) If the claimant was employed by the contractor or subcontractor on the public works project, the bond filed by the contractor or subcontractor with the department of labor and industries as provided in RCW 18.27.040 and 19.28.041;
 - (c) A surety bond, or at the contractor's or subcontractor's option an escrow account, running to the director in the amount of the violation found; and
- (d) That portion of the progress payments which is properly allocable to the contractor or subcontractor who is found to be in violation of this chapter. Under no circumstances shall any portion of

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the progress payments be withheld that are properly allocable to a contractor, subcontractor, or supplier, that is not found to be in violation of this chapter.

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The amount withheld shall be released to the director to distribute in accordance with the director's determination.

(3)(a) A contractor or subcontractor that is found, in accordance with subsection (1) of this section, to have violated the requirement to pay the prevailing rate of wage shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than one thousand dollars or an amount equal to twenty percent of the total prevailing wage violation found on the contract, whichever is greater, and shall not be permitted to bid, or have a bid considered, on any public works contract until such civil penalty has been paid in full to the director. If the contractor or subcontractor performs work on a subsidized public works project, the subsidy recipient shall also be subject to a civil penalty in the amount of the unpaid wages or the value of the qualifying tax preference, whichever is greater. Civil penalties shall be deposited in the public works administration account.

(b) If a contractor or subcontractor is found to have participated in a violation of the requirement to pay the prevailing rate of wage for a second time within a five-year period, the contractor or subcontractor shall be subject to the sanctions prescribed in (a) of this subsection and as an additional sanction shall not be allowed to bid on any public works contract for two years. ((Civil penalties shall be deposited in the public works administration account.)) If a previous or subsequent violation of a requirement to pay a prevailing rate of wage under federal or other state law is found against the contractor or subcontractor within five years from a violation under this section, the contractor or subcontractor shall not be allowed to bid on any public works contract for two years. A contractor or subcontractor shall not be barred from bidding on any public works contract if the contractor or subcontractor relied upon written information from the department to pay a prevailing rate of wage that is later determined to be in violation of this chapter.

(c) The civil penalty and sanctions under this subsection (3) shall not apply to a violation determined by the director to be an inadvertent filing or reporting error.

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(d) To the extent that a contractor or subcontractor has not paid the prevailing wage rate under a determination issued as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the unpaid wages shall constitute a lien against the bonds and retainage as provided herein and in RCW 18.27.040, 19.28.041, 39.08.010, section 9 of this act, and 60.28.011.

Sec. 8. RCW 39.12.070 and 2008 c 285 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

The department of labor and industries may charge fees to awarding agencies or subsidy recipients on public works for the approval of statements of intent to pay prevailing wages and the certification of affidavits of wages paid. The department may also charge fees to persons or organizations requesting the arbitration of disputes under RCW 39.12.060. The amount of the fees shall be established by rules adopted by the department under the procedures in the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. The fees shall apply to all approvals, certifications, and arbitration requests made after the effective date of the rules. All fees shall be deposited in the public works administration account. The department may refuse to arbitrate for contractors, subcontractors, persons, or organizations which have not paid the proper fees. The department may, if necessary, request the attorney general to take legal action to collect delinquent fees.

The department shall set the fees permitted by this section at a level that generates revenue that is as near as practicable to the amount of the appropriation to administer this chapter((τ)) including, but not limited to, the performance of adequate wage surveys, and to investigate and enforce all alleged violations of this chapter((τ)) including, but not limited to, incorrect statements of intent to pay prevailing wage, incorrect certificates of affidavits of wages paid, and wage claims, as provided for in this chapter and chapters 49.48 and 49.52 RCW. However, the fees charged for the approval of statements of intent to pay prevailing wages and the certification of affidavits of wages paid shall be forty dollars.

- 33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 39.12 RCW to read as follows:
- 35 (1) Every contractor and subcontractor on a subsidized public works 36 project must file with the department of labor and industries a surety

bond issued by a surety insurer who meets the requirements of chapter 1 2 48.28 RCW in the sum of five percent of the amount due on the public works contract. The bond must name the state of Washington as obligee 3 with good and sufficient surety in a form to be approved by the 4 department. The bond must be continuous and may be canceled by the 5 surety upon the surety giving written notice to the director of labor 6 7 and industries. The bond must be conditioned to recover against the 8 contractor and its officers, agents, and employees by reason of its violation of this chapter. A change in the name of a business or a 9 10 change in the type of business entity does not impair a bond for the purposes of this section so long as one of the original applicants for 11 12 the bond maintains partial ownership in the business covered by the 13 bond.

- (2) In lieu of posting a bond, the contractor and subcontractor on a subsidized public works project may deposit five percent of the amount due on the subsidized public works contract in an interest-bearing account.
- 18 **Sec. 10.** RCW 82.60.025 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 16 s 4 are each 19 amended to read as follows:

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- The lessor or owner of a qualified building is not eligible for a deferral unless:
- 22 (1) The lessor or owner complies with the requirements of chapter 23 39.12 RCW; and
 - (2) The underlying ownership of the buildings, machinery, and equipment vests exclusively in the same person; or
 - $((\frac{2}{2}))$ $\underline{(3)}(a)$ The lessor by written contract agrees to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee;
 - (b) The lessee that receives the economic benefit of the deferral agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey required under RCW 82.60.070; and
 - (c) The economic benefit of the deferral passed to the lessee is no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor and is evidenced by written documentation of any type of payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee.

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Sec. 11. RCW 82.63.010 and 2009 c 268 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

- (1) "Advanced computing" means technologies used in the designing and developing of computing hardware and software, including innovations in designing the full spectrum of hardware from hand-held calculators to super computers, and peripheral equipment.
- (2) "Advanced materials" means materials with engineered properties created through the development of specialized processing and synthesis technology, including ceramics, high value-added metals, electronic materials, composites, polymers, and biomaterials.
- 13 (3) "Applicant" means a person applying for a tax deferral under 14 this chapter.
 - (4) "Biotechnology" means the application of technologies, such as recombinant DNA techniques, biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology, genetics and genetic engineering, cell fusion techniques, and new bioprocesses, using living organisms, or parts of organisms, to produce or modify products, to improve plants or animals, to develop microorganisms for specific uses, to identify targets for small molecule pharmaceutical development, or to transform biological systems into useful processes and products or to develop microorganisms for specific uses.
 - (5) "Department" means the department of revenue.
 - (6) "Electronic device technology" means technologies involving microelectronics; semiconductors; electronic equipment and instrumentation; radio frequency, microwave, and millimeter electronics; optical and optic-electrical devices; and data and digital communications and imaging devices.
 - (7) "Eligible investment project" means an investment project which either initiates a new operation, or expands or diversifies a current operation by expanding, renovating, or equipping an existing facility. The lessor or owner of the qualified building is not eligible for a deferral unless:
- 35 (a) The lessor or owner complies with the requirements of chapter 36 39.12 RCW; and
- 37 <u>(b)</u> The underlying ownership of the buildings, machinery, and equipment vests exclusively in the same person; or

1 (((b))) <u>(c)</u>(i) The lessor by written contract agrees to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee;

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- (ii) The lessee that receives the economic benefit of the deferral agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey required under RCW 82.63.020(2); and
- (iii) The economic benefit of the deferral passed to the lessee is no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor and is evidenced by written documentation of any type of payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee.
- (8) "Environmental technology" means assessment and prevention of threats or damage to human health or the environment, environmental cleanup, and the development of alternative energy sources.
- (9)(a) "Initiation of construction" means the date that a building permit is issued under the building code adopted under RCW 19.27.031 for:
 - (i) Construction of the qualified building, if the underlying ownership of the building vests exclusively with the person receiving the economic benefit of the deferral;
- (ii) Construction of the qualified building, if the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in subsection (7) of this section; or
- (iii) Tenant improvements for a qualified building, if the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in subsection (7) of this section.
- (b) "Initiation of construction" does not include soil testing, site clearing and grading, site preparation, or any other related activities that are initiated before the issuance of a building permit for the construction of the foundation of the building.
- 30 (c) If the investment project is a phased project, "initiation of construction" shall apply separately to each phase.
- 32 (10) "Investment project" means an investment in qualified 33 buildings or qualified machinery and equipment, including labor and 34 services rendered in the planning, installation, and construction or 35 improvement of the project.
 - (11) "Multiple qualified buildings" means qualified buildings leased to the same person when such structures: (a) Are located within

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a five-mile radius; and (b) the initiation of construction of each building begins within a sixty-month period.

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- (12) "Person" has the meaning given in RCW 82.04.030 and includes state universities as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.
- (13) "Pilot scale manufacturing" means design, construction, and testing of preproduction prototypes and models in the fields of biotechnology, advanced computing, electronic device technology, advanced materials, and environmental technology other than for commercial sale. As used in this subsection, "commercial sale" excludes sales of prototypes or sales for market testing if the total gross receipts from such sales of the product, service, or process do not exceed one million dollars.
- (14) "Qualified buildings" means construction of new structures, and expansion or renovation of existing structures for the purpose of increasing floor space or production capacity used for pilot scale manufacturing or qualified research and development, including plant offices and other facilities that are an essential or an integral part of a structure used for pilot scale manufacturing or qualified research and development. If a building or buildings are used partly for pilot scale manufacturing or qualified research and development, and partly for other purposes, the applicable tax deferral shall be determined by apportionment of the costs of construction under rules adopted by the department. Such rules may include provisions for determining the amount of the deferral based on apportionment of costs of construction of an investment project consisting of a building or multiple buildings, where qualified research and development or pilot scale manufacturing activities are shifted within a building or from one building to another building.
- (15) "Qualified machinery and equipment" means fixtures, equipment, and support facilities that are an integral and necessary part of a pilot scale manufacturing or qualified research and development operation. "Qualified machinery and equipment" includes: Computers; processing equipment; software; data laboratory equipment, instrumentation, and other devices used in a process of experimentation to develop a new or improved pilot model, plant process, product, formula, invention, or similar property; manufacturing components such as belts, pulleys, shafts, and moving parts; molds, tools, and dies; vats, tanks, and fermenters; operating structures; and all other

- equipment used to control, monitor, or operate the machinery. For 1 2 purposes of this chapter, qualified machinery and equipment must be 3 either new to the taxing jurisdiction of the state or new to the 4 certificate holder, except that used machinery and equipment may be 5 treated as qualified machinery and equipment if the certificate holder either brings the machinery and equipment into Washington or makes a 6 7 retail purchase of the machinery and equipment in Washington or 8 elsewhere.
- 9 (16) "Qualified research and development" means research and 10 development performed within this state in the fields of advanced 11 computing, advanced materials, biotechnology, electronic device 12 technology, and environmental technology.
- 13 (17) "Recipient" means a person receiving a tax deferral under this 14 chapter.

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- (18) "Research and development" means activities performed to discover technological information, and technical and nonroutine activities concerned with translating technological information into new or improved products, processes, techniques, formulas, inventions, or software. The term includes exploration of a new use for an existing drug, device, or biological product if the new use requires separate licensing by the federal food and drug administration under chapter 21, C.F.R., as amended. The term does not include adaptation or duplication of existing products where the products are not substantially improved by application of the technology, nor does the term include surveys and studies, social science and humanities research, market research or testing, quality control, sale promotion and service, computer software developed for internal use, and research in areas such as improved style, taste, and seasonal design.
- 29 **Sec. 12.** RCW 82.75.010 and 2010 c 114 s 145 are each amended to 30 read as follows:
- 31 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 32 this section apply throughout this chapter.
- 33 (1) "Applicant" means a person applying for a tax deferral under this chapter.
- 35 (2) "Biotechnology" means a technology based on the science of 36 biology, microbiology, molecular biology, cellular biology, 37 biochemistry, or biophysics, or any combination of these, and includes,

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- but is not limited to, recombinant DNA techniques, genetics and genetic engineering, cell fusion techniques, and new bioprocesses, using living organisms, or parts of organisms.
 - (3) "Biotechnology product" means any virus, therapeutic serum, antibody, protein, toxin, antitoxin, vaccine, blood, blood component or derivative, allergenic product, or analogous product produced through the application of biotechnology that is used in the prevention, treatment, or cure of diseases or injuries to humans.
 - (4) "Department" means the department of revenue.

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- 10 (5)(a) "Eligible investment project" means an investment in 11 qualified buildings or qualified machinery and equipment, including 12 labor and services rendered in the planning, installation, and 13 construction of the project.
- 14 (b) The lessor or owner of a qualified building is not eligible for 15 a deferral unless:
- 16 (i) The lessor or owner complies with the requirements of chapter
 17 39.12 RCW; and
 - (ii) The underlying ownership of the buildings, machinery, and equipment vests exclusively in the same person; or
 - (((ii))) <u>(iii)</u>(A) The lessor by written contract agrees to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee;
 - (B) The lessee that receives the economic benefit of the deferral agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey required under RCW 82.75.070; and
 - (C) The economic benefit of the deferral passed to the lessee is no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor and is evidenced by written documentation of any type of payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee.
- 30 (6)(a) "Initiation of construction" means the date that a building 31 permit is issued under the building code adopted under RCW 19.27.031 32 for:
 - (i) Construction of the qualified building, if the underlying ownership of the building vests exclusively with the person receiving the economic benefit of the deferral;
- 36 (ii) Construction of the qualified building, if the economic 37 benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in 38 subsection $(5)(b)((\frac{(ii)}{(ii)}))$ (iii)(A) of this section; or

(iii) Tenant improvements for a qualified building, if the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in subsection $(5)(b)((\frac{(ii)}{(ii)}))$ (iii)(A) of this section.

- (b) "Initiation of construction" does not include soil testing, site clearing and grading, site preparation, or any other related activities that are initiated before the issuance of a building permit for the construction of the foundation of the building.
- (c) If the investment project is a phased project, "initiation of construction" applies separately to each phase.
 - (7) "Manufacturing" has the meaning provided in RCW 82.04.120.
- (8) "Medical device" means an instrument, apparatus, implement, machine, contrivance, implant, in vitro reagent, or other similar or related article, including any component, part, or accessory, that is designed or developed and:
- (a) Recognized in the national formulary, or the United States pharmacopeia, or any supplement to them;
- (b) Intended for use in the diagnosis of disease, or in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease or other conditions in human beings or other animals; or
- (c) Intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings or other animals, and which does not achieve any of its primary intended purposes through chemical action within or on the body of human beings or other animals and which is not dependent upon being metabolized for the achievement of any of its principal intended purposes.
 - (9) "Person" has the meaning provided in RCW 82.04.030.
- (10) "Qualified buildings" means construction of new structures, and expansion or renovation of existing structures for the purpose of increasing floor space or production capacity used for biotechnology product manufacturing or medical device manufacturing activities, including plant offices, commercial laboratories for process development, quality assurance and quality control, and warehouses or other facilities for the storage of raw material or finished goods if the facilities are an essential or an integral part of a factory, plant, or laboratory used for biotechnology product manufacturing or medical device manufacturing. If a building is used partly for biotechnology product manufacturing and

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partly for other purposes, the applicable tax deferral must be determined by apportionment of the costs of construction under rules adopted by the department.

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- (11) "Qualified machinery and equipment" means all new industrial and research fixtures, equipment, and support facilities that are an integral and necessary part of a biotechnology product manufacturing or medical device manufacturing operation. "Qualified machinery and equipment" includes: Computers; software; data processing equipment; laboratory equipment; manufacturing components such as belts, pulleys, shafts, and moving parts; molds, tools, and dies; operating structures; and all equipment used to control or operate the machinery.
- 12 (12) "Recipient" means a person receiving a tax deferral under this chapter.
- 14 **Sec. 13.** RCW 82.82.010 and 2008 c 15 s 1 are each amended to read 15 as follows:
- The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 18 (1) "Applicant" means a person applying for a tax deferral under 19 this chapter.
 - (2) "Corporate headquarters" means a facility or facilities where corporate staff employees are physically employed, and where the majority of the company's management services are handled either on a regional or a national basis. Company management services may include: Accounts receivable and payable, accounting, data processing, distribution management, employee benefit plan, financial and securities accounting, information technology, insurance, legal, merchandising, payroll, personnel, purchasing procurement, planning, reporting and compliance, research and development, tax, treasury, or other headquarters-related services. "Corporate headquarters" does not include a facility or facilities used for manufacturing, wholesaling, or warehousing.
 - (3) "Department" means the department of revenue.
- 33 (4) "Eligible area" means a designated community empowerment zone 34 approved under RCW 43.31C.020.
- 35 (5)(a) "Eligible investment project" means an investment project in 36 a qualified building or buildings in an eligible area, as defined in 37 subsection (4) of this section, which will have employment at the

- qualified building or buildings of at least three hundred employees in qualified employment positions, each of whom must earn for the year reported at least the average annual wage for the state for that year as determined by the employment security department.
 - (b) The lessor or owner of a qualified building or buildings is not eligible for a deferral unless:

- (i) The lessor or owner complies with the requirements of chapter 39.12 RCW; and
- (ii) The underlying ownership of the building or buildings vests exclusively in the same person; or
- (((ii))) (iii)(A) The lessor by written contract agrees to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee;
- (B) The lessee that receives the economic benefit of the deferral agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey required under RCW 82.82.020; and
- (C) The economic benefit of the deferral passed to the lessee is no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor and is evidenced by written documentation of any type of payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee.
- (6) "Investment project" means a capital investment of at least thirty million dollars in a qualified building or buildings including tangible personal property and fixtures that will be incorporated as an ingredient or component of such buildings during the course of their construction, and including labor and services rendered in the planning, installation, and construction of the project.
- (7) "Manufacture" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.04.120.
- (8) "Operationally complete" means a date no later than one year from the date the project is issued an occupancy permit by the local permit issuing authority.
 - (9) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.04.030.
- (10) "Qualified building or buildings" means construction of a new structure or structures or expansion of an existing structure or structures to be used for corporate headquarters. If a building is used partly for corporate headquarters and partly for other purposes, the applicable tax deferral is determined by apportionment of the costs of construction under rules adopted by the department.

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- 1 (11) "Qualified employment position" means a permanent full-time 2 employee employed in the eligible investment project during the entire 3 tax year. The term "entire tax year" means a full-time position that 4 is filled for a period of twelve consecutive months. The term "full-5 time" means at least thirty-five hours a week, four hundred fifty-five 6 hours a quarter, or one thousand eight hundred twenty hours a year.
- 7 (12) "Recipient" means a person receiving a tax deferral under this 8 chapter.
- 9 (13) "Warehouse" means a building or structure, or any part 10 thereof, in which goods, wares, or merchandise are received for storage 11 for compensation.
- 12 (14) "Wholesale sale" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 13 82.04.060.
- 14 **Sec. 14.** RCW 82.08.820 and 2011 c 174 s 206 are each amended to read as follows:
- 16 (1) Wholesalers or third-party warehousers who own or operate 17 warehouses or grain elevators and retailers who own or operate 18 distribution centers, and who have paid the tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 19 on:
- 20 (a) Material-handling and racking equipment, and labor and services 21 rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or 22 improving the equipment; or
- 23 (b) Construction of a warehouse or grain elevator, including 24 materials, and including service and labor costs,
 - are eligible for an exemption in the form of a remittance. The amount of the remittance is computed under subsection (3) of this section and is based on the state share of sales tax.
 - (2) For purposes of this section and RCW 82.12.820:
- 29 (a) "Agricultural products" has the meaning given in RCW 82.04.213;
 - (b) "Construction" means the actual construction of a warehouse or grain elevator that did not exist before the construction began. "Construction" includes expansion if the expansion adds at least two hundred thousand square feet of additional space to an existing warehouse or additional storage capacity of at least one million bushels to an existing grain elevator. "Construction" does not include
- 36 renovation, remodeling, or repair;

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(c) "Department" means the department of revenue;

(d) "Distribution center" means a warehouse that is used exclusively by a retailer solely for the storage and distribution of finished goods to retail outlets of the retailer. "Distribution center" does not include a warehouse at which retail sales occur;

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- (e) "Finished goods" means tangible personal property intended for sale by a retailer or wholesaler. "Finished goods" does not include agricultural products stored by wholesalers, third-party warehouses, or retailers if the storage takes place on the land of the person who produced the agricultural product. "Finished goods" does not include logs, minerals, petroleum, gas, or other extracted products stored as raw materials or in bulk;
- (f) "Grain elevator" means a structure used for storage and handling of grain in bulk;
- "Material-handling equipment and racking equipment" means equipment in a warehouse or grain elevator that is primarily used to handle, store, organize, convey, package, or repackage finished goods. The term includes tangible personal property with a useful life of one year or more that becomes an ingredient or component of the equipment, including repair and replacement parts. The term does not include equipment in offices, lunchrooms, restrooms, and other like space, within a warehouse or grain elevator, or equipment used for nonwarehousing purposes. "Material-handling equipment" includes but is not limited to: Conveyers, carousels, lifts, positioners, pick-up-andplace units, cranes, hoists, mechanical arms, and robots; mechanized systems, including containers that are an integral part of the system, whose purpose is to lift or move tangible personal property; and automated handling, storage, and retrieval systems, including computers that control them, whose purpose is to lift or move tangible personal property; and forklifts and other off-the-road vehicles that are used to lift or move tangible personal property and that cannot be operated legally on roads and streets. "Racking equipment" includes, but is not limited to, conveying systems, chutes, shelves, racks, bins, drawers, pallets, and other containers and storage devices that form a necessary part of the storage system;
 - (h) "Person" has the meaning given in RCW 82.04.030;
- (i) "Retailer" means a person who makes "sales at retail" as defined in chapter 82.04 RCW of tangible personal property;

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(j) "Square footage" means the product of the two horizontal dimensions of each floor of a specific warehouse. The entire footprint of the warehouse shall be measured in calculating the square footage, including space that juts out from the building profile such as loading docks. "Square footage" does not mean the aggregate of the square footage of more than one warehouse at a location or the aggregate of the square footage of warehouses at more than one location;

- 8 (k) "Third-party warehouser" means a person taxable under RCW 9 82.04.280(1)(d);
 - (1) "Warehouse" means an enclosed building or structure in which finished goods are stored. A warehouse building or structure may have more than one storage room and more than one floor. Office space, lunchrooms, restrooms, and other space within the warehouse and necessary for the operation of the warehouse are considered part of the warehouse as are loading docks and other such space attached to the building and used for handling of finished goods. Landscaping and parking lots are not considered part of the warehouse. A storage yard is not a warehouse, nor is a building in which manufacturing takes place; and
 - (m) "Wholesaler" means a person who makes "sales at wholesale" as defined in chapter 82.04 RCW of tangible personal property, but "wholesaler" does not include a person who makes sales exempt under RCW 82.04.330.
 - (3)(a) A person claiming an exemption from state tax in the form of a remittance under this section must pay the tax imposed by RCW 82.08.020. The buyer may then apply to the department for remittance of all or part of the tax paid under RCW 82.08.020. For grain elevators with bushel capacity of one million but less than two million, the remittance is equal to fifty percent of the amount of tax paid. For warehouses with square footage of two hundred thousand or more and for grain elevators with bushel capacity of two million or more, the remittance is equal to one hundred percent of the amount of tax paid for qualifying construction, materials, service, and labor, and fifty percent of the amount of tax paid for qualifying material-handling equipment and racking equipment, and labor and services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving the equipment.

(b) The department shall determine eligibility under this section based on information provided by the buyer and through audit and other administrative records. The buyer shall on a quarterly basis submit an information sheet, in a form and manner as required by the department by rule, specifying the amount of exempted tax claimed and the qualifying purchases or acquisitions for which the exemption is claimed. The buyer shall retain, in adequate detail to enable the department to determine whether the equipment or construction meets the criteria under this section: Invoices; proof of tax paid; documents describing the material-handling equipment and racking equipment; location and size of warehouses and grain elevators; and construction invoices and documents.

- (c) The department shall on a quarterly basis remit exempted amounts to qualifying persons who submitted applications during the previous quarter.
- (4) Warehouses, grain elevators, and material-handling equipment and racking equipment for which an exemption, credit, or deferral has been or is being received under chapter 82.60, 82.62, or 82.63 RCW or RCW 82.08.02565 or 82.12.02565 are not eligible for any remittance under this section. Warehouses and grain elevators upon which construction was initiated before May 20, 1997, are not eligible for a remittance under this section.
- 23 (5) The lessor or owner of a warehouse or grain elevator is not 24 eligible for a remittance under this section unless:
- 25 <u>(a) The lessor or owner complies with the requirements of chapter</u> 26 <u>39.12 RCW; and</u>
- (b) The underlying ownership of the warehouse or grain elevator and the material-handling equipment and racking equipment vests exclusively in the same person((7)); or ((unless))
- 30 <u>(c) The lessor</u> by written contract agrees to pass the economic 31 benefit of the remittance to the lessee in the form of reduced rent 32 payments.
- **Sec. 15.** RCW 82.08.900 and 2006 c 151 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
- 35 (1) The tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 does not apply to sales to an 36 eligible person establishing or operating an anaerobic digester or to 37 services rendered in respect to installing, constructing, repairing,

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cleaning, altering, or improving an anaerobic digester, or to sales of tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of the anaerobic digester. The anaerobic digester must be used primarily to treat livestock manure.

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- (2)(a) The department of revenue must provide an exemption certificate to an eligible person upon application by that person. The application must be in a form and manner prescribed by the department and must contain information regarding the location of the facility and other information as the department may require.
- (b) A person claiming an exemption under this section must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility under this section. The exemption is available only when the buyer provides the seller with an exemption certificate in a form and manner prescribed by the department. The seller must retain a copy of the certificate for the seller's files.
- 16 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply to this section and 17 RCW 82.12.900 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - (a) "Anaerobic digester" means a facility that processes manure from livestock into biogas and dried manure using microorganisms in a decomposition process within a closed, oxygen-free container.
- 21 (b) "Eligible person" means any person establishing or operating an 22 anaerobic digester to treat primarily livestock manure who complies 23 with the requirements of chapter 39.12 RCW.
- 24 (c) "Primarily" means more than fifty percent measured by volume or 25 weight.
- 26 **Sec. 16.** RCW 82.08.955 and 2007 c 309 s 4 are each amended to read 27 as follows:
 - (1) The tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 does not apply to sales of machinery and equipment, or to services rendered in respect to constructing structures, installing, constructing, repairing, cleaning, decorating, altering, or improving of structures or machinery and equipment, or to sales of tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of structures or machinery and equipment, if the machinery, equipment, or structure is used directly for the retail sale of a biodiesel blend or E85 motor fuel. Structures and machinery and equipment that are used for the retail sale of a biodiesel blend or

E85 motor fuel and for other purposes are exempt only on the portion used directly for the retail sale of a biodiesel blend or E85 motor fuel.

- (2) The tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 does not apply to sales of fuel delivery vehicles or to sales of or charges made for labor and services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving the vehicles including repair parts and replacement parts if at least seventy-five percent of the fuel distributed by the vehicles is a biodiesel blend or E85 motor fuel.
- (3) A person taking the exemption under this section must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility under this section and comply with the requirements of chapter 39.12 RCW. The exemption is available only when the buyer provides the seller with an exemption certificate in a form and manner prescribed by the department. The seller shall retain a copy of the certificate for the seller's files.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, the definitions in RCW 82.04.4334 and this subsection apply.
 - (a) "Biodiesel blend" means fuel that contains at least twenty percent biodiesel fuel by volume.
 - (b) "E85 motor fuel" means an alternative fuel that is a blend of ethanol and hydrocarbon of which the ethanol portion is nominally seventy-five to eighty-five percent denatured fuel ethanol by volume that complies with the most recent version of American society of testing and materials specification D 5798.
 - (c) "Machinery and equipment" means industrial fixtures, devices, and support facilities and tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component thereof, including repair parts and replacement parts that are integral and necessary for the delivery of biodiesel blends or E85 motor fuel into the fuel tank of a motor vehicle.
 - (5) This section expires July 1, 2015.

- **Sec. 17.** RCW 82.12.955 and 2007 c 309 s 5 are each amended to read 33 as follows:
- 34 (1) The provisions of this chapter do not apply in respect to the 35 use of machinery and equipment, or to services rendered in respect to 36 installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving of eligible

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machinery and equipment, or tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of machinery and equipment used directly for the retail sale of a biodiesel or E85 motor fuel.

- (2) The provisions of this chapter do not apply in respect to the use of fuel delivery vehicles including repair parts and replacement parts and to services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving the vehicles if at least seventy-five percent of the fuel distributed by the vehicles is a biodiesel or E85 motor fuel.
- 10 (3) A person taking the exemption under this section must comply
 11 with the requirements of chapter 39.12 RCW.
- $\underline{(4)}$ For the purposes of this section, the definitions in RCW 82.04.4334 and 82.08.955 apply.
- (((4))) (5) This section expires July 1, 2015.

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