

---

**SENATE BILL 5228**

---

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Takko and Saldaña

Read first time 01/16/19. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the authorization to impose special excise  
2 taxes on the sale of lodging; amending RCW 67.28.181 and 82.14.410;  
3 providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 67.28.181 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 24 s 703 are each  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislative body of any municipality may impose an excise  
8 tax on the sale of or charge made for the furnishing of lodging that  
9 is subject to tax under chapter 82.08 RCW. The rate of tax (~~shall~~)  
10 may not exceed the lesser of two percent or a rate that, when  
11 combined with all other taxes imposed upon sales of lodging within  
12 the municipality under this chapter and chapters 36.100, 67.40,  
13 82.08, and 82.14 RCW, equals twelve percent. A tax under this chapter  
14 shall not be imposed in increments smaller than tenths of a percent.

15 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section:

16 (a) If a municipality was authorized to impose taxes under this  
17 chapter or RCW 67.40.100 or both with a total rate exceeding four  
18 percent before July 27, 1997, such total authorization shall continue  
19 through January 31, 1999, and thereafter the municipality may impose  
20 a tax under this section at a rate not exceeding the rate actually  
21 imposed by the municipality on January 31, 1999.

1 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (2)(b), if a  
2 city or town, other than a municipality imposing a tax under (a) of  
3 this subsection, is located in a county that imposed taxes under this  
4 chapter with a total rate of four percent or more on January 1, 1997,  
5 the city or town may not impose a tax under this section. Beginning  
6 July 1, 2019, this subsection (2)(b) does not apply to any city or  
7 town located in a county with a population of less than four hundred  
8 thousand.

9 (c) If a city has a population of four hundred thousand or more  
10 and is located in a county with a population of one million or more,  
11 the rate of tax imposed under this chapter by the city shall not  
12 exceed the lesser of four percent or a rate that, when combined with  
13 all other taxes imposed upon sales of lodging in the municipality  
14 under this chapter and chapters 36.100, 67.40, 82.08, and 82.14 RCW,  
15 equals fifteen and two-tenths percent.

16 (d) If a municipality was authorized to impose taxes under this  
17 chapter or RCW 67.40.100, or both, at a rate equal to six percent  
18 before January 1, 1998, the municipality may impose a tax under this  
19 section at a rate not exceeding the rate actually imposed by the  
20 municipality on January 1, 1998.

21 (3) Any county ordinance or resolution adopted under this section  
22 shall contain a provision allowing a credit against the county tax  
23 for the full amount of any city or town tax imposed under this  
24 section upon the same taxable event.

25 (4) In determining the effective combined rate of tax for  
26 purposes of the limit in subsections (1) and (2)(c) of this section,  
27 the tax rate under RCW 82.14.530 is not included.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.14.410 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 24 s 704 are each  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (1) A local sales and use tax change adopted after December 1,  
31 2000, must provide an exemption for those sales of lodging for which,  
32 but for the exemption, the total sales tax rate imposed on sales of  
33 lodging would exceed the greater of:

34 (a) Twelve percent; or

35 (b) The total sales tax rate that would have applied to the sale  
36 of lodging if the sale were made on December 1, 2000.

37 (2) For the purposes of this section:

38 (a) "Local sales and use tax change" is defined as provided in  
39 RCW 82.14.055.

1 (b) "Sale of lodging" means the sale of or charge made for the  
2 furnishing of lodging and all other services by a hotel, rooming  
3 house, tourist court, motel, trailer camp, and the granting of any  
4 similar license to use real property.

5 (c) "Total sales tax rate" means the combined rates of all state  
6 and local taxes imposed under this chapter and chapters 36.100,  
7 67.28, 67.40, and 82.08 RCW, and any other tax authorized after March  
8 29, 2001, if the tax is in the nature of a sales tax collected from  
9 the buyer, but excluding taxes imposed under RCW 81.104.170 before  
10 December 1, 2000, and taxes imposed under RCW 82.14.530 and  
11 67.28.181(2)(b).

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
14 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
15 effect July 1, 2019.

--- END ---