

HB 2325 -- Redline

Substitute to Bill -- Establishing a tourism self-supported assessment program to fund statewide tourism promotion.

Deletions ~~struck~~ · Insertions underlined

~~H-3247.1~~H-2770.1 ~~SUBSTITUTE~~ HOUSE BILL 2325 State of Washington 69th Legislature 2026 Regular Session By ~~House Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans (originally sponsored by~~ Representatives Paul, Steele, Reed, Doglio, Stonier, Zahn, Barkis, Shavers, and ~~Bernbaum)~~Bernbaum ~~READ~~Prefiled ~~FIRST~~01/08/26.
~~TIME 01/30/26.~~

Read first time 01/12/26.

Referred to Committee on Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans.

1 ~~SHB~~HB 2325 within Washington across leisure, business, and international markets;

2 ~~SHB~~HB 2325 NEW SECTION.

and (e) beverage ~~producers;~~producers.

~~(f) full-service restaurant locations with revenues exceeding \$5,000,000 per year;~~

~~and (g) retailer locations with revenues exceeding \$5,000,000 per year.~~

The authority shall give substantial weight to the recommendations made under section 3, chapter 189, Laws of ~~2025,~~2025 ~~and the design developed under section 5 of this act,~~ when developing rules under this chapter.

All nominees for membership on the ratepayer oversight board must be employees or officers of businesses subject to the assessment imposed under section 5 of this act, pursuant to assessment ratification procedures established under section 6 of this act.

~~3p. SHB 2325 pursuant to assessment ratification procedures established under section 6 of this act.~~

3 ~~HB~~2325 (b) Initial board members shall serve for six months or until completion of initial referendum, and vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.

(d) ~~The~~On the recommendation of the advisory group, the authority may remove any appointed member of the ratepayer oversight board for inefficiency, neglect of duty, malfeasance, or four unexcused absences in one year.

~~p.~~NEW SECTION.

~~4 SHB 2325 NEW SECTION.~~

(1)(a) Within three years of the effective date of this section, the ratepayer ~~oversight~~p. board shall conduct a referendum among affected businesses to ratify the proposed assessment program.

4 ~~HB~~2325 oversight board shall conduct a referendum among affected businesses to ratify the proposed assessment program.

~~p.~~(a) Must be used solely for tourism promotion as defined in the ratified program;

~~5 SHB 2325 (a) Must be used solely for tourism promotion as defined in the ratified program;~~

~~NEW~~p. SECTION.

5 ~~HB~~2325 NEW SECTION.

~~A(1) due~~Failure and to payable pay an assessment levied in such specified amount as determined by the authority constitutes a personal debt of every person so assessed or who otherwise owes the assessment, and the assessment is due and payable to the authority~~state.~~ when payment is called for by the authority.

~~If(2) a~~The person fails to pay the authority themay: full amount of the assessment by the date due, the authority may add to the unpaid assessment an amount not exceeding 10 percent of the assessment to defray the cost of enforcing its collection.

~~If(a) the~~Impose person fails to pay any such due and payable assessment or other such sum, the authority may bring a civil~~penalty~~ action~~of for~~up collectionto against~~10 the~~percent person or persons in a court of competent~~the jurisdiction.~~unpaid assessment;

~~The action shall be tried and judgment~~(b) renderedBring as a ~~incivil~~ any other cause of action for~~in~~ a court ~~debt to due~~recover and unpaid payable. assessments.

~~p.~~(b) One member representing the beverage sector;

~~6 SHB 2325 (b) One member representing the beverage sector;~~

~~(b)p.~~ The self-supported assessment methodology including the petition process for businesses to approve the self-supported assessment;

6 ~~HB~~2325 (b) The self-supported assessment methodology including the petition process for businesses to approve the self-supported assessment;

~~p.~~(4) "Director" means the director of the department of commerce.

~~7 SHB 2325 (4) "Director" means the director of the department of commerce.~~

~~(2)p.~~ The authority is responsible for contracting for statewide tourism marketing services that promote

~~tourism on behalf of the citizens of the state, and for managing the authority's financial resources.~~
~~(2) 7 HB 2325 (2) The authority is responsible for administering contracting afor statewide tourism assessmentmarketing program services as that set promote forth tourism inon chapter behalf 43.--- of RCW the (the citizens newof chapterthe created state, inand sectionfor 15managing ofthe this authority's act)-financial resources.~~

(3) The authority's authority primaryis activities responsible ofor developing and administering governmenta taxtourism fundsassessment shallprogram beas governedset byforth thein authority-chapter 43.--- RCW (the new chapter created in section 15 of this act).

When developing the program, the authority may consider the October 31, 2025, advisory report authorized by section 3, chapter 189, Laws of 2025.

The authority's primary activities of administering government tax funds shall be governed by the board. and p-(c) ((Nine)) Thirteen representatives ((with expertise in the tourism industry and related businesses including, but not limited to, hotel, restaurant, outdoor recreation, attractions, retail, and rental car businesses appointed by the governor.

~~8 SHB 2325 (c) ((Nine)) Thirteen representatives ((with expertise in the tourism industry and related businesses including, but not limited to, hotel, restaurant, outdoor recreation, attractions, retail, and rental car)) of tourism businesses appointed by the governor as provided in this subsection (1)(c)-~~

~~No county may have more than ((two))two four appointments ((andand no city may have more than one appointment))-appointment)) of tourism businesses appointed by the governor as follows:~~

~~(i)p. Eight members representing businesses paying the assessments ratified under section 6 of this act, and nominated by the ratepayer oversight board, except that the initial members shall be nominated by the tourism self-supported assessment advisory group created in section 3, chapter 189, Laws of 2025;~~

8 HB 2325 (i) Eight members representing businesses paying the assessments ratified under section 6 of this act, and nominated by the ratepayer oversight board, except that the initial members shall be nominated by the tourism self-supported assessment advisory group created in section 3, chapter 189, Laws of 2025;

~~p-(10) The board must meet at least quarterly.~~

~~9 SHB 2325 (10) The board must meet at least quarterly.~~

~~Thep. following financial, commercial, and proprietary information is exempt from disclosure under this chapter:-~~

9 HB 2325 The following financial, commercial, and proprietary information is exempt from disclosure under this chapter:

~~p-(8) Financial, commercial, operations, and technical and research information and data submitted to or obtained by the Clean Washington center in applications for, or delivery of, program services under chapter 70.95H RCW;~~

~~10 SHB 2325 (8) Financial, commercial, operations, and technical and research information and data submitted to or obtained by the clean Washington center in applications for, or delivery of, program services under chapter 70.95H RCW;~~

~~(10)(a)p. Financial information, including but not limited to account numbers and values, and other identification numbers supplied by or on behalf of a person, firm, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity related to an application for a horse racing license submitted pursuant to RCW 67.16.260(1)(b), cannabis producer, processor, or retailer license, liquor license, gambling license, or lottery retail license;~~

10 HB 2325 (10)(a) Financial information, including but not limited to account numbers and values, and other identification numbers supplied by or on behalf of a person, firm, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity related to an application for a horse racing license submitted pursuant to RCW 67.16.260(1)(b), cannabis producer, processor, or retailer license, liquor license, gambling license, or lottery retail license;

and (iv) Gaming equipment information, including but not limited to related hardware, software, and security information, such as p-firewall configurations, field testing data and results from testing, network topologies or diagrams, source code, software files, cryptographic hashes of software files, schematics, user credentials, system components, and any other sensitive information about the equipment that may compromise the security and integrity of the equipment if released;

~~11p. SHB 2325 firewall configurations, field testing data and results from testing, network topologies or diagrams, source code, software files, cryptographic hashes of software files, schematics, user credentials, system components, and any other sensitive information about the equipment that may compromise the security and integrity of the equipment if released;~~

11 HB 2325 (c) Valuable formulae or financial or proprietary commercial information records received during a consultative visit or while providing consultative services to a licensed cannabis business in accordance with RCW 69.50.561;

(d) If there is no written contact for a period of 60 days to the department of commerce from a person

connected with siting, ~~p-recruitment, expansion, retention, or relocation of that person's business,~~
information described in (a)(ii) of this subsection will be available to the public under this chapter;

~~12 SHB 2325 recruitment, expansion, retention, or relocation of that person's business, information
described in (a)(ii) of this subsection will be available to the public under this chapter;~~

~~(14)p. Financial, commercial, operations, and technical and research information and data submitted to
or obtained by the life sciences discovery fund authority in applications for, or delivery of, grants
under RCW 43.330.502, to the extent that such information, if revealed, would reasonably be expected to
result in private loss to the providers of this information;~~

12 HB 2325 (14) Financial, commercial, operations, and technical and research information and data
submitted to or obtained by the life sciences discovery fund authority in applications for, or delivery
of, grants under RCW 43.330.502, to the extent that such information, if revealed, would reasonably be
expected to result in private loss to the providers of this information;

(20) Financial and commercial information submitted to or obtained by the University of Washington,
other than information the university is required to disclose under RCW 28B.20.150, when the information
relates to investments in private funds, to the extent that such information, if revealed, would
reasonably be expected to ~~p-result in loss to the University of Washington consolidated endowment fund
or to result in private loss to the providers of this information;~~

~~13 SHB 2325 result in loss to the University of Washington consolidated endowment fund or to result in
private loss to the providers of this information;~~

~~(22)p. Financial information supplied to the department of financial institutions, when filed by or on
behalf of an issuer of securities for the purpose of obtaining the exemption from state securities
registration for small securities offerings provided under RCW 21.20.880 or when filed by or on behalf
of an investor for the purpose of purchasing such securities;~~

13 HB 2325 (22) Financial information supplied to the department of financial institutions, when filed
by or on behalf of an issuer of securities for the purpose of obtaining the exemption from state
securities registration for small securities offerings provided under RCW 21.20.880 or when filed by or
on behalf of an investor for the purpose of purchasing such securities;

(26) Financial and commercial information submitted to or obtained by the retirement board of any city
that is responsible for the management of an employees' retirement system pursuant to the authority of
chapter 35.39 RCW, when the information relates to investments in private funds, to the extent that such
information, if revealed, would reasonably be expected to result in loss to the retirement fund or to
result in private loss to the providers of this information except that (a) the names and commitment
amounts of the ~~p-private funds in which retirement funds are invested and (b) the aggregate quarterly
performance results for a retirement fund's portfolio of investments in such funds are subject to
disclosure;~~

~~14(27) SHBProprietary 2325financial, privatecommercial, fundsoperations, inand whichtechnical
retirementand fundsresearch areinformation invested and (b)data thesubmitted aggregateto quarterlyor
performanceobtained resultsby forthethe ap. retirement fund's portfolio of investments in such funds are
subject to disclosure;~~

~~(27)14 ProprietaryHB financial,2325 commercial, operations, and technical and research information and
data submitted to or obtained by the~~ liquor and cannabis board in applications for cannabis research
licenses under RCW 69.50.372, or in reports submitted by cannabis research licensees in accordance with
rules adopted by the liquor and cannabis board under RCW 69.50.372;

~~p-NEW SECTION.~~

~~15 SHB 2325 NEW SECTION.~~

~~1615 SHBHB 2325~~