Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 1206 HB	**Title:** Newspaper publishers/tax

Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Department of Revenue	(3,687,000)	(3,883,000)	(3,883,000)	(5,572,000)	(5,873,000)	(5,873,000)	(5,851,000)	(6,182,000)	(6,182,000)
Total $	**(3,687,000)**	**(3,883,000)**	**(3,883,000)**	**(5,572,000)**	**(5,873,000)**	**(5,873,000)**	**(5,851,000)**	**(6,182,000)**	**(6,182,000)**

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts						
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Total						

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee	.1	0	0	31,000	.0	0	0	13,400	.0	0	0	13,400
Department of Revenue	.9	279,300	279,300	279,300	.2	42,400	42,400	42,400	.2	42,400	42,400	42,400
Total $	**1.0**	**279,300**	**279,300**	**310,300**	**0.2**	**42,400**	**42,400**	**55,800**	**0.2**	**42,400**	**42,400**	**55,800**

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Revenue	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total $	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

Prepared by: Cheri Keller, OFM	Phone: (360) 584-2207	Date Published: Revised 3/ 3/2023

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Revised

Bill Number: 1206 HB	Title: Newspaper publishers/tax	Agency: 014-Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee

Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Account					
Performance Audits of Government Account-State 553-1	24,300	6,700	31,000	13,400	13,400
Total $	24,300	6,700	31,000	13,400	13,400

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☐ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☒ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Kristina King	Phone: 360-786-7190	Date: 01/10/2023
Agency Preparation:	Eric Whitaker	Phone: 3607865618	Date: 03/02/2023
Agency Approval:	Eric Thomas	Phone: 360 786-5182	Date: 03/02/2023
OFM Review:	Gaius Horton	Phone: (360) 819-3112	Date: 03/03/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill seeks to terminate an existing B&O tax preference for newspaper printers and publishers and replace it with a new tax preference that would expand the list of activities eligible for the deduction and extend the expiration date.

The current tax preference, which reduces the B&O tax rate for newspaper printers and publishers to 0.35%, will expire on July 1, 2024.

Section 1 is the findings statement. It summarizes the financial losses and employment declines realized by the newspaper industry and the disruption of its traditional revenue streams as the internet became the dominant medium for news content. It also summarizes the oversight function and educational role that local journalism often serves in governance and associated trends in civic engagement.

Section 2 would add a new chapter to RCW 82.04 and establish eligible activities:
• Printing or publishing a newspaper.
• Publishing eligible digital content, but only if the person's primary business activity is creating and publishing such conter

Additionally, the section defines "eligible digital content" and provides that a person may also deduct all advertising and subscription revenue but must include the deductible amount in the gross income reported on its excise tax return.

The modified tax preference would expire on January 1, 2035.

Section 3 would amend RCW 82.04.260 by removing the existing tax preference for newspaper printing and publishing and the annual tax performance report requirement.

Section 4 would amend RCW 35.102.150 by requiring a municipal government that imposes a B&O tax to allocate the taxpayer's gross income consist with the new tax preference.

Section 5 would amend RCW 82.04.460 the definition of "apportionable activities" to align with the new tax preference.

Section 6 would amend RCW 82.08.806 to update the definition of "printer and publisher" to align with the new tax preference.

Section 7 is the tax preference performance statement. The preference is categorized as one intended to provide tax relief for certain businesses or individuals and to create or retain jobs. Consistent with RCW 82.32.534, a taxpayer claiming the new preference must file an annual tax performance report.

The stated public policy objective is to protect and support local journalism.

The Legislature intends to extend the expiration date of the tax preference if either of two metrics are achieved:
• Compared to December 31, 2022, at least 75% of the journalism jobs, local newspapers, and community-focused online news outlets based in Washington are retained.
• If the preference enables locally based journalism outlets to continue to exist when compared to states that did not provide similar tax incentives.

Expenditure Estimate:
Provide a brief description of how JLARC will conduct the assigned study. Enter details in the attached Excel worksheet on following page.

The fiscal note estimate assumes JLARC staff will be tracking newspapers and working to determine how to further define and measure trends for eligible digital content providers. Administrative data and other resources are available for newspaper printers and publishers, and this will likely be collected annually. However, equivalent information for eligible digital content providers may not currently be available. As JLARC staff learns more, additional money may be required to collect this detail.

JLARC staff would contact and work with the Department of Revenue and other appropriate entities after the Legislative session to ensure relevant information for newspaper printers and publishers is available. Additionally, JLARC staff will work with these entities to determine the types of information that will be needed to assess employment and other trends among eligible digital content providers as well as sources for the information.

The expenditure detail noted reflects the costs associated with establishing contacts and collecting appropriate baseline data and information. The expenditure detail does not include the cost to conduct the analysis, which is assumed to be completed in 2032.

This tax preference review may require additional resources. The audit will be conducted and presented to JLARC consistent with the processes used for other tax preference reviews. Based on all tax preference legislation that is passed, JLARC may subsequently determine that it can absorb the costs for this proposed bill in its base budget, if the workload of other enacted tax preference legislation does not exceed current staffing. JLARC will assess all of the tax preference reviews mandated in the 2023 legislative session.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

The fiscal note estimate assumes JLARC staff will be tracking newspapers and working to determine how to further define and measure trends for eligible digital content providers. Administrative data and other resources are available for newspaper printers and publishers, and this will likely be collected annually. However, equivalent information for eligible digital content providers may not currently be available. As JLARC staff learns more, additional money may be required to collect this detail.

JLARC staff would contact and work with the Department of Revenue and other appropriate entities after the Legislative session to ensure relevant information for newspaper printers and publishers is available. Additionally, JLARC staff will work with these entities to determine the types of information that will be needed to assess employment and other trends among eligible digital content providers as well as sources for the information.

The expenditure detail noted reflects the costs associated with establishing contacts and collecting appropriate baseline data and information. The expenditure detail does not include the cost to conduct the analysis, which is assumed to be completed in 2032.

This tax preference review may require additional resources. The audit will be conducted and presented to JLARC consistent with the processes used for other tax preference reviews. Based on all tax preference legislation that is passed, JLARC may subsequently determine that it can absorb the costs for this proposed bill in its base budget, if the workload of other enacted tax preference legislation does not exceed current staffing. JLARC will assess all of the tax preference reviews mandated in the 2023 legislative session.

This audit will require an estimated 3 audit months.

JLARC Audit Months: JLARC calculates its staff resources in "Audit Months" to estimate the time and effort to undertake and complete its studies. An "Audit Month" reflects a JLARC analyst's time for a month, together with related administrative, support, and goods/services costs. JLARC's anticipated 2023-25 costs are calculated at approximately $22,100 per audit month.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
553-1	Performance Audits of Government Account	State	24,300	6,700	31,000	13,400	13,400
		Total $	24,300	6,700	31,000	13,400	13,400

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.1		0.1		
A-Salaries and Wages	15,700	4,300	20,000	8,600	8,600
B-Employee Benefits	5,000	1,400	6,400	2,800	2,800
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	3,300	900	4,200	1,800	1,800
G-Travel	300	100	400	200	200
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total $	24,300	6,700	31,000	13,400	13,400

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Research Analyst	126,694	0.1		0.1		
Support staff	89,671					
Total FTEs		0.1		0.1		0.0

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Department of Revenue Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1206 HB	**Title:** Newspaper publishers/tax	**Agency:** 140-Department of Revenue

Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Account	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
GF-STATE-State 01 - Taxes 05 - Bus and Occup Tax	(979,000)	(2,708,000)	(3,687,000)	(5,572,000)	(5,851,000)
Workforce Education Investment Account-State 01 - Taxes 05 - Bus and Occup Tax	(56,000)	(140,000)	(196,000)	(301,000)	(331,000)
Total $	(1,035,000)	(2,848,000)	(3,883,000)	(5,873,000)	(6,182,000)

Estimated Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	1.4	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.2
Account					
GF-STATE-State 001-1	248,100	31,200	279,300	42,400	42,400
Total $	248,100	31,200	279,300	42,400	42,400

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☒ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☐ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☒ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Kristina King	Phone: 360-786-7190	Date: 01/10/2023
Agency Preparation:	Van Huynh	Phone: 360-534-1512	Date: 01/12/2023
Agency Approval:	Valerie Torres	Phone: 360-534-1521	Date: 01/12/2023
OFM Review:	Cheri Keller	Phone: (360) 584-2207	Date: 01/13/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

CURRENT LAW:
Businesses printing newspapers, publishing newspapers, or both, qualify for a preferential business and occupation (B&O) tax rate of 0.35%. This preferential rate expires July 1, 2024, after which a tax rate of 0.484% applies.

"Newspaper" means:
- A publication issued regularly at stated intervals at least twice a month and printed on newsprint in tabloid or broadsheet format folded loosely together without stapling, glue, or any other binding of any kind, including any supplement of a printed newspaper; and
- An electronic version of a printed newspaper that:
    - Shares content with the printed newspaper; and
    - Is prominently identified by the same name as the printed newspaper or otherwise conspicuously indicates that it is a complement to the printed newspaper.

Digital periodicals and magazines that do not have a substantially similar tangible counterpart report income from the selling activities under the retailing or wholesaling B&O tax classification and advertising income under the service and other activities B&O tax classification.

Digital periodicals and magazines that do have a substantially similar tangible counterpart report their income under the printing and publishing B&O tax classification.

PROPOSAL:
This bill creates a B&O deduction for amounts received from any of the following activities:
- Printing and/or publishing newspapers.
- Publishing “eligible digital content.”

This deduction expires January 1, 2035.

"Eligible digital content" is a publication:
- Published at regularly stated intervals at least once every three months,
- Having at least two but no more than fifty employees, at least one of whom creates content for the publication,
- Primarily featuring written content, the largest category of which contains material that identifies the author or the original source of the material, and
- Available to readers primarily or exclusively in an electronic format.

"Eligible digital content" excludes digital content created by a radio or television broadcaster.

EFFECTIVE DATE:
This bill takes effect on January 1, 2024.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

ASSUMPTIONS
- The department identified publishers of "eligible digital content" using the industry classification for "internet publishing and

broadcasting and web search portals" (NAICS 519130). This may include or exclude businesses not considered a publisher of "eligible digital content" under this bill. As a result, the actual tax impacts from "eligible digital content" publishers may substantially differ from this estimate.
- It is not clear from the bill language whether the two to fifty employee requirement only refers to those employees involved with a particular publication, or if the requirement refers to the total number of employees for the business. As written, the revenue impact could include businesses with more than fifty employees.
- The term “primary” means greater than 50%.
- Businesses whose employees are out-of-state could also qualify for the deduction if all other requirements are met.
- Growth rates for newspaper printers and publishers mimic the growth for newspaper production from the IHS Markit's November 2022 forecast.
- Growth rates for eligible digital content mimic the growth of the service and other activities B&O tax classification from the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's November 2022 forecast.
- This legislation takes effect January 1, 2024, and impacts 5 months of collections in fiscal year 2024.

DATA SOURCES
- Department of Revenue, excise tax return data
- IHS Markit industrial production index for newspaper publishers, November 2022 forecast
- Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, November 2022 forecast

REVENUE ESTIMATES
This bill decreases state revenues by an estimated $1.035 million in fiscal year 2024 and then by $2.848 million in fiscal year 2025, the first full year of impacted collections.

TOTAL REVENUE IMPACT:

State Government (cash basis, $000):
FY 2024 - ($ 1,035)
FY 2025 - ($ 2,848)
FY 2026 - ($ 2,903)
FY 2027 - ($ 2,970)
FY 2028 - ($ 3,049)
FY 2029 - ($ 3,133)

Local Government, if applicable (cash basis, $000): None.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

ASSUMPTIONS:
- This estimate affects 400 taxpayers.

FIRST YEAR COSTS:
The department will incur total costs of $248,100 in fiscal year 2024. These costs include:

Labor Costs - Time and effort equate to 1.4 FTEs.
- Set up, program and test computer system changes for a new deduction added to e-file and the combined excise tax return, modifications to the buyer’s sales and use tax preference addendum and creation of a new tax preference report.
- Create a special notice and identify publications and information that the department may need to create or update on the department’s website.

- Respond to tax ruling requests, email inquiries, and more difficult call backs from the telephone information center.
- Process tax return work items, assist taxpayers with reporting questions and respond to inquiries via email and web message and paper correspondence.
- Examine accounts and make corrections as necessary.
- Develop and maintain annual tax performance report questions.
- Amend one excise tax advisory.
- Amend two administrative rules.

Object Costs - $79,200.
- Computer system changes, including contract programming.

SECOND YEAR COSTS:
The Department will incur total costs of $31,200 in fiscal year 2025. These costs include:

Labor Costs - Time and effort equate to 0.3 FTE.
- Resolve additional return work items. Respond to email, web message, and paper correspondence inquiries. Answer telephone questions, monitor reports, and assist taxpayers with reporting.
- Develop and maintain annual tax incentive report questions.
- Review annual tax incentive report submissions, work to verify submission accuracy, and compile statistics and reports.

ONGOING COSTS:
Ongoing costs for fiscal year 2025-27 biennium equal $42,400 and include similar activities described in the second-year costs. Time and effort equate to 0.2 FTE per year.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	1.4	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.2
A-Salaries and Wages	103,500	19,700	123,200	28,200	28,200
B-Employee Benefits	34,200	6,500	40,700	9,200	9,200
C-Professional Service Contracts	79,200		79,200		
E-Goods and Other Services	21,600	3,700	25,300	3,800	3,800
J-Capital Outlays	9,600	1,300	10,900	1,200	1,200
Total $	$248,100	$31,200	$279,300	$42,400	$42,400

III. B - Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
EMS BAND 4	126,619	0.0		0.0		
EMS BAND 5	147,919	0.0		0.0		
EXCISE TAX EX 2	55,872	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
IT SYS ADM-JOURNEY	92,844	0.2		0.1		
MGMT ANALYST4	73,260	0.4		0.2		
TAX INFO SPEC 4	66,420	0.4		0.2		
TAX POLICY SP 2	75,120	0.0		0.0		
TAX POLICY SP 3	85,020	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
TAX POLICY SP 4	91,524	0.0		0.0		
WMS BAND 3	107,685	0.0		0.0		
Total FTEs		1.4	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.2

III. C - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Should this legislation become law, the department will use the expedited process to amend WAC 458-20-143, titled: "Printers and publishers of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals" and WAC 458-20-144, titled: "Printing industry". Persons affected by this rulemaking would include newspapers, publishers of newspapers, and qualified online publishers.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 1206 HB	**Title:** Newspaper publishers/tax

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

[X] Cities: Indeterminate revenue increase for cities with a local B&O tax, indeterminate expenditure impact to administer new tax deduction

[ ] Counties:

[ ] Special Districts:

[ ] Specific jurisdictions only:

[ ] Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

[ ] No fiscal impacts.

[ ] Expenditures represent one-time costs:

[ ] Legislation provides local option:

[X] Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: Workload administering new tax deduction, scope of change in revenue for certain cities

Estimated revenue impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Angie Hong	Phone: 360-725-5041	Date: 01/17/2023
Leg. Committee Contact: Kristina King	Phone: 360-786-7190	Date: 01/10/2023
Agency Approval: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 01/17/2023
OFM Review: Cheri Keller	Phone: (360) 584-2207	Date: 01/17/2023

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

This bill would allow the state and local preferential B&O tax rate of 0.35% for newspaper publishers and newspaper printers to expire on July 1, 2024 (after which a tax rate of 0.484% will apply), and would enact a state and local B&O tax deduction for newspaper publishers, printers, and would expand to include: qualified online publishers beginning January 1, 2024.

Section 1 describes the intent of this bill.

Section 2 adds a chapter to RCW 82.04 [Business and Occupation Tax] to allow certain printing and publishing activities to be deducted from the measure of tax amounts received, and defines “eligible digital content.”

Section 3 amends RCW 82.04.260 [Business and Occupation Tax on certain industries] to remove the tax rate for persons engaging in printing or publishing of newspapers or both and to remove the requirement to complete an annual tax performance report.

Section 4 amends RCW 35.102.150 [Allocation of income-Printing and publishing activities] alters the local B&O tax activities allocated from cities to the Dept. of Revenue to remove the previous B&O tax rate (RCW 82.04.260(13)) and adds the deduction.

BACKGROUND
As of January 1, 2022, there are 49 cities in Washington with local B&O taxes according to the Association of Washington Cities.

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

This bill will require cities with a B&O tax to administer a B&O tax deduction for certain newspaper publishing and printing companies. This bill will have an indeterminate expenditure impact upon "cities with a B&O tax.”

It is unknown if the costs to administer this B&O tax deduction will fit into the current workload of city staff and be de minimus, or if cities will need to hire additional staff to administer this B&O tax deduction.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

This bill will allow a B&O tax preferential rate to expire on July 1, 2024, and will replace it with a B&O tax deduction. This bill is expected to result in an indeterminate revenue increase for 49 cities with a B&O tax.

The Dept. of Revenue calculated the expected revenue loss of the current "state B&O tax preferential rate" when it was enacted in 2012 to be in the range of $5-7 million dollars per fiscal year. The Dept. of Revenue estimates the expected revenue loss of the new 'state B&O tax deduction,' beginning in 2024, to be in the range of $3 million dollars per fiscal year.

The revenue loss to the state for the “state B&O preferential rate” is approximately $3 million dollars per fiscal year greater than the expected loss to the state for the “state B&O tax deduction.” It can be predicted that city revenue loss will decrease with the new deduction as well.

SOURCES

Dept of Revenue Fiscal Note ESB 6635, 2012
Dept of Revenue Fiscal Note Draft HB 1206, 2023
Association of Washington Cities