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HOUSE BILL 1284

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Pollet and Berry

AN ACT Relating to eliminating the investment income business and occupation tax deduction for corporations and other business entities; amending RCW 82.04.4281; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that Washington law provides a business and occupation tax deduction for investment income for corporations and other business entities. The legislature further finds that this deduction costs the state hundreds of millions of dollars over a biennium. The legislature further finds that the practical effect of this deduction is to discourage investment in the state because Washington companies that invest money and create jobs in Washington pay business and occupation taxes on revenues generated from their reinvestment, while Washington companies that invest money in out-of-state markets do not pay tax on revenues generated from these investments. The legislature further finds that increasing fairness in the state tax system by closing tax loopholes is essential to encouraging productive economic investment in the state. The legislature further finds that the lost revenue from this deduction is an expenditure that conflicts with, and harms, the state's constitutional obligation to significantly increase

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- 1 funding for our public schools and our children's education. The legislature further finds that tax loopholes that 2 incentivize 3 companies to invest money out-of-state instead of reinvesting in Washington, create an inequitable tax burden on those companies that 4 reinvest revenues into Washington. Therefore, it is the intent of the 5 6 legislature to bring equity to the state tax system by closing a loophole that benefits companies that generate 7 revenue investments made outside of the state and to ensure they pay their 8 fair share towards our paramount duty of providing education to every 9 child in Washington, investing in building the education needed for 10 11 the workforce that these businesses require to thrive, and for the 12 services and infrastructure the state provides.
- 13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.04.4281 and 2007 c 54 s 9 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
- 15 (1) In computing tax there may be deducted from the measure of tax:
 - (a) Amounts derived by individuals from investments;

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- (b) Amounts derived as dividends or distributions from the capital account by a parent from its subsidiary entities; and
- (c) Amounts derived from interest on loans between subsidiary entities and a parent entity or between subsidiaries of a common parent entity, but only if the total investment and loan income is less than five percent of gross receipts of the business annually.
- (2) ((The following are not deductible under subsection (1)(a) of this section:
- (a) Amounts received from loans, except as provided in subsection (1)(c) of this section, or the extension of credit to another, revolving credit arrangements, installment sales, the acceptance of payment over time for goods or services, or any of the foregoing that have been transferred by the originator of the same to an affiliate of the transferor; or
 - (b) Amounts received by a banking, lending, or security business.
- 33 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply only to this 34 section.
 - (a) "Banking business" means a person engaging in business as a national or state-chartered bank, a mutual savings bank, a savings and loan association, a trust company, an alien bank, a foreign bank, a credit union, a stock savings bank, or a similar entity that is

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chartered under Title 30, 31, 32, or 33 RCW, or organized under Title 12 U.S.C.

- (b) "Lending business" means a person engaged in the business of making secured or unsecured loans of money, or extending credit, and (i) more than one-half of the person's gross income is earned from such activities and (ii) more than one-half of the person's total expenditures are incurred in support of such activities.
- (c) The terms)) For purposes of this section, "loan" ((and "extension of credit" do)) does not include ownership of or trading in publicly traded debt instruments, or substantially equivalent instruments offered in a private placement.
- ((d) "Security business" means a person, other than an issuer, who is engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities as a broker, dealer, or broker-dealer, as those terms are defined in the securities act of Washington, chapter 21.20 RCW, or the federal securities act of 1933. "Security business" does not include any company excluded from the definition of broker or dealer under the federal investment company act of 1940 or any entity that is not an investment company by reason of sections 3(c)(1) and 3(c)(3) through 3(c)(14) thereof.))
- 21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect August 1, 2025.

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