



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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January 21, 2016

**TO:** Hunter Goodman, Secretary  
Washington State Senate

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk  
Washington State House of Representatives

**FROM:** Vikki Smith, Director *Vikki Smith*  
Department of Revenue

**SUBJECT: 2016 TAX EXEMPTION STUDY**

The 2016 Tax Exemption Study, provided to you in this [link](#), is submitted to you pursuant to RCW 43.06.400. This edition is the thirteenth in a series of tax exemption studies, starting with the first report in 1984.

**Study covers 694 tax exemptions**

There are currently 694 tax exemptions for major Washington state and local tax sources. The estimated savings in state and local taxes for taxpayers resulting from these exemptions total \$103.7 billion for the 2015-17 Biennium. For each exemption, the following is provided:

- A brief description,
- The purpose of the exemption,
- Taxpayer savings,
- Potential revenue gains from a full repeal of the exemption, and
- Additional information such as the year of enactment and the primary beneficiaries.

**Study provided electronically**

In an effort to reduce the cost of producing this study, we are providing it to you electronically. The study will also be posted on the Department of Revenue website.

**Questions**

The study was prepared by analysts of the Research and Fiscal Analysis Division. Questions regarding this study may be directed to Kathy Oline, Assistant Director of Research and Fiscal Analysis, at (360) 534-1534.

cc: Members, Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Members, House Finance and Appropriations Committees  
David Schumacher, Director, Office of Financial Management  
Miguel Pérez-Gibson, Executive Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor