



Cultural Access Washin

For Arts, Science,
and Heritage

NEWS FLASH: The combined SSB 5463 bill is poised to go to the Floor, but last minute procedural changes have put the bill at risk! The House Leadership is trying to attach it to a local tax omnibus bill that is unpopular, and would rob local communities the opportunity to vote to support their cultural institutions. Please call Speaker Chopp and Rep. Carlyle to ask that they let SSB 5463 go to the floor as a separate bill!

To WaMA Members, Trustees, and Supporters:

With the current WA legislative session we have an opportunity for a new state law that will provide long term support for museums and other nonprofit cultural attractions. But we need your help to make it happen!

How? The bipartisan bills we are introducing this session will **allow local voters to approve a small tax increase that will be dedicated to funding local cultural attractions in their own communities.** St. Louis and Denver have been doing this successfully for decades. If **local** voters can get the right to tax themselves to support their **local** cultural institutions, this would be funded from a 0.1% increase of the **local** sales tax **or**, they can collect the same amount through property taxes. Find out more on the CAWA website [here](#).

Why is it important for our museums and our communities? Across the state, the 0.1% sales tax would generate approximately \$117,139,000 in support of cultural nonprofits. A portion of these funds will be shared with nonprofit cultural venues in each county and can be used to build educational programming and improve access for disadvantaged audiences. Take a look at the table on the right to see how much would be collected in your county. **Museums take note: you may also use these funds for capital projects (larger King County venues may not be eligible) in addition to supporting the operating costs of additional outreach programs.**

We all know museums serve a critical role for our schools, providing programs that align with national and state learning standards. **We do what schools cannot do alone: we provide peak experiences for students that focus on self-expression, history, and enjoyment — enriching lives in the process and creating more fully engaged generations for the future.** Plus, this law will help museums bring students to their location or, in many cases, take programs to the schools.

What can you do to help? Please call, write, or email your Representatives and show your support! If you happen to know other Representatives, please reach out to them too. We will only be successful if our elected officials hear from us. **Share this opportunity with friends and supporters in your community and ask for their help, let our Representatives know that passage of HB 1107 provides financial support that will make a significant difference.**

You can find the contact information for your museum’s address and your personal address here: [WA State Legislative Finder](#). **The window to get this bipartisan bill to the Floor ends TODAY, so they need to hear from us immediately. Please ACT NOW. This is our last chance this Legislative session!**

Local Funds, Local Decisions, Local Access!

| Museums | |
|--------------|---------------|
| County | 0.1% of WSST |
| Adams | \$ 277,053 |
| Asotin | \$ 269,954 |
| Benton | \$ 3,189,855 |
| Chelan | \$ 1,454,689 |
| Clallam | \$ 948,664 |
| Clark | \$ 4,870,332 |
| Columbia | \$ 77,708 |
| Cowlitz | \$ 1,379,515 |
| Ferry | \$ 46,713 |
| Franklin | \$ 1,110,257 |
| Grant | \$ 1,818,642 |
| Grays Harbor | \$ 819,684 |
| Island | \$ 743,814 |
| Jefferson | \$ 378,424 |
| King | \$ 46,093,341 |
| Kitsap | \$ 3,319,687 |
| Kittitas | \$ 706,409 |
| Klickitat | \$ 208,243 |
| Lewis | \$ 1,042,025 |
| Lincoln | \$ 119,136 |
| Okanogan | \$ 556,383 |
| Pacific | \$ 227,104 |
| Pierce | \$ 12,189,180 |
| San Juan | \$ 365,328 |
| Skagit | \$ 2,321,686 |
| Skamania | \$ 84,422 |
| Snohomish | \$ 11,172,615 |
| Spokane | \$ 7,561,669 |
| Stevens | \$ 373,425 |
| Thurston | \$ 3,974,436 |
| Walla Walla | \$ 737,040 |
| Whatcom | \$ 3,433,470 |
| Whitman | \$ 638,105 |
| Yakima | \$ 3,214,688 |

Based on FY2013
WA State Sales Tax Data

Cultural Access Washington is a 501(c)(3) whose sole mission is to pass legislation in support of nonprofits that are dedicated to interpreting the arts, history, science, and nature in Washington State