



SUPPORT PENDING LEGISLATION TO HELP FUND OUR MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

To WaMA Members, Trustees, and Supporters:

With the upcoming 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 the **local** sales tax **or**, they can collect the same amount through property taxes. The attached “**How the Cultural Access Law Will Work**” describes the details more fully. You can also 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: if your annual revenues are under \$1.25M OR if you are a museum of any size outside King County, you can also use these funds for capital projects in addition to supporting the operating costs of additional outreach.**

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 elected legislators 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 legislators know that passage of HB 1107 and SB 5364 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](#). **They need to hear from you soon - the legislative session is already underway, so please ACT NOW.**

Local Funds, Local Decisions, Local Access!

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

Counties With Cultural Attractions Including 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*