Senator Mark Hass Representative Phil Barnhart

Senator Brian Boquist Representative John Davis Representative Jessica Vega Pederson

Senator Herman Baertschiger Jr.
Senator Chris Edwards
Senator Chuck Riley
Representative Cliff Bentz
Representative Mark Johnson
Representative Ann Lininger
Representative Tobias Read
Representative Barbara Smith Warner
Representative Gail Whitsett



Paul Warner, Legislative Revenue Officer Mazen Malik, Senior Economist Chris Allanach, Senior Economist Dae Baek, Economist Christine Broniak, Economist Kyle Easton, Economist Corinne Gavette, Office Manager Anna Grimes, Committee Assistant Edward Klein, Committee Assistant

78th Legislative Assembly JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAX CREDITS

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Tax Credit Committee Policy Questions

When reviewing the tax credit sunset extension bills and proposed new credits, the Joint Committee on Tax Credits intends to address the follow questions:

- What is the public policy purpose of this credit? Is there an expected timeline for achieving this goal?
- Who (groups of individuals, types of organizations or businesses) directly benefits from this credit? Does this credit target a specific group? If so, is it effectively reaching this group?
- What is expected to happen if this credit fully sunsets? Could adequate results be achieved with a scaled down version of the credit? What would be the effect of reducing the credit by 50%?
- What background information on the effectiveness of this type of credit is available from other states?
- Is use of a tax credit an effective and efficient way to achieve this policy goal? What are the administrative and compliance costs associated with this credit? Would a direct appropriation achieve the goal of this credit more efficiently?
- What other incentives (including state or local subsides, federal tax expenditures or subsidies) are available that attempt to achieve a similar policy goal?
- Could this credit be modified to make it more effective and/or efficient? If so, how?

CREDIT SUNSET REVIEW PROCESS SUMMARY

Interim Process

- Pre-session file bills extending sunset for all credits with 2016 sunset date.
- Allocate sunset extension bills to relevant policy committee with subsequent referral to revenue committee.
- Pre-session file and allocate to relevant policy committee extension for those credits with 2018 sunset date that meet criteria for early consideration.

Policy Committee Process

- Review goal or purpose of credit.
- Evaluate effectiveness of credit in achieving goal.
- Consider new credits for achieving policy goals.
- Prioritize credits based on evaluation.
- Decide on action:
 - o Simple extension—refer bill to joint tax credit committee.
 - Extension with modifications-amend bill refer to joint tax credit committee.
 - o Allow credit to sunset—take no action on bill.
 - Replace existing credit with new more effective credit—refer new credit to joint tax credit committee.

Joint Tax Credit Committee Process

- Determine credit revenue base—revenue impact of straight credit extension.
- Determine deviations from base in allowable total credit revenue impact based on:
 - Overall revenue and budget situation.
 - o Consultations with leadership and ways & means co-chairs.
- Evaluate individual credits based on:
 - o Policy committee recommendations.
 - o Policy committee prioritizations.
 - o Sound overall tax policy criteria such as equity and administration.
 - o Prioritization of credits within overall credit "budget".
- Take action on credit bills based on evaluation.