

Ordinance No. 123472

Council Bill No. 117003

AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs; reducing the annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee, eliminating the fee exemption applicable to Seattle for-hire driver licenses with King County endorsements and amending subsection 6.310.150.C of the Seattle Municipal Code.

CF No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Introduced:	<u>Oct. 18, 2010</u>	
Date 1st Referred:	<u>Oct. 18, 2010</u>	To: (committee) <u>Budget</u>
Date Re - Referred:	To: (committee)	
Date Re - Referred:	To: (committee)	
Date of Final Passage:	<u>11.22.10</u>	Full Council Vote: <u>9-0</u>
Date Presented to Mayor:	<u>11.23.10</u>	Date Approved: <u>Dec. 2, 2010</u>
Date Returned to City Clerk:	Date Published:	T.O. <input type="checkbox"/> F.T. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date Vetoed by Mayor:	Date Veto Published:	
Date Passed Over Veto:	Veto Sustained:	

# The City of Seattle - Legislative Department

Council Bill/Ordinance sponsored by: hodden  
Councilmember

## Committee Action:

11.12.10 Pass 9-0

11.22.10 Passed 9-0

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ (initial/date)

Law Dept. Review

OMP Review

City Clerk Review

Electronic Copy Loaded

Indexed

ORDINANCE 123472

AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs; reducing the annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee, eliminating the fee exemption applicable to Seattle for-hire driver licensees with King County endorsements and amending subsection 6.310.150.C of the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, an increase in regulatory fee revenue is necessary to recover the full cost of the taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program; and

WHEREAS, the \$75 annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee contained in Section 6.310.150 of the Seattle Municipal Code has not been collected from licensees holding Seattle for-hire driver licenses with King County endorsements since a fee exemption was adopted by Ordinance 119872 in 2000; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance proposes to reduce the \$75 annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee to \$50 and eliminate the fee exemption applicable to Seattle for-hire driver licensees with King County endorsements; and

WHEREAS, it is considered a matter of equity that all for-hire drivers, whether they hold a King County endorsement or not, pay the same annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee and that both for-hire drivers and vehicle licensees pay fees to help recover their share of the costs of the taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes result in an additional \$100,000 per year in fees collected to support the full cost of the taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Effective January 1, 2011, subsection 6.310.150.C of the Seattle Municipal Code, as last amended by Ordinance 122763, is amended as follows:

C. For-hire driver license:

Annual fee  $\$((75* ** *)50$

Add/change affiliation\* \* \* \$20



1	Late fee	\$15
2	ID photo	\$5
3	Fingerprinting	Charge as determined by Director to cover costs
4	Replacement license	\$5
5	Training class fee	As determined by Director

6 \* \* \* For-hire drivers may only be affiliated with a maximum of three ~~((3))~~ taxicab  
7 associations at any given time. This fee is only charged when the driver is  
8 affiliated with three ~~((3))~~ associations and now wants to delete one ~~((1))~~  
9 association and add another.  
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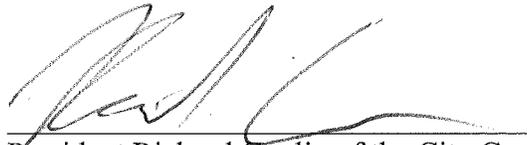
11 ~~(( \* \* \* If a for-hire driver has a King County license, no additional fee is charged for a  
12 Seattle for hire driver license. An endorsement will be added to the King County  
13 for-hire driver license stating that the license is valid for Seattle also. The driver  
14 must still meet all Seattle for-hire driver requirements and obtain a City of Seattle  
15 business license.))~~  
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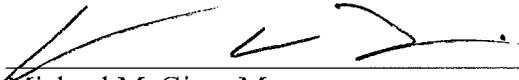
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Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days from and after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the 22 day of November, 2010, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 22 day of November, 2010.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President Richard Conlin of the City Council

Approved by me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2010.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2010.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

(Seal)



**2011-2012 BUDGET LEGISLATION FISCAL NOTE**

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Finance and Administrative Services	Denise Movius/684-9259	Greg Shiring/6-4085

**Legislation Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs; reducing the annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee, eliminating the fee exemption applicable to Seattle for-hire driver licensees with King County endorsements and amending subsection 6.310.150.C of the Seattle Municipal Code.

**Summary of the Legislation:** This proposal provides for license fee equity among Seattle and dual-licensed for-hire drivers by reducing the annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee and eliminating the fee exemption applicable to Seattle for-hire driver licensees with King County endorsements. Regulatory fee revenue will be increased by \$100,000 to help recover the full cost of the taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program.

**Background:** The City recovers the cost of its taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program from annual fees paid by licensees. Presently, for-hire drivers with license endorsements for Seattle pay a \$75 annual license fee; however, this fee is waived if the driver has a dual license endorsement with King County. These drivers pay a license fee of \$100 each year to King County only. This proposal reduces the cost of the Seattle annual license fee from \$75 to \$50 and ends the waiver for drivers with dual endorsements. King County and the City operate independent taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory programs and the City does not receive a share of for-hire driver license revenues from the County.

Through Ordinance 119872 passed by City Council in 2000, the City provided a waiver for Seattle for-hire drivers who already had a King County for-hire license, because the City expected to receive a share of the revenues collected by the County and because of the perceived financial burden imposed on these drivers who would have had to pay a King County for-hire licensing fee, a Seattle for-hire licensing fee, and Seattle business license fee each year. In the intervening years, the Seattle for-hire license fees have gone up and the business license fees have gone down, creating growing inequities between the Seattle-only drivers who bear the cost of the regulatory program and the dual endorsement drivers who do not.

It is now necessary to increase revenues collected to pay for the full cost of the Seattle taxicab and for-hire vehicle regulatory program. Rather than increase fees to drivers with Seattle-only endorsements, with this legislation, the City proposes to recover the necessary revenues from all Seattle for-hire drivers. Under this proposal, every for-hire driver with a Seattle endorsement on his or her license will pay the same \$50 annual license fee to cover the cost of for-hire driver regulation.



- Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

This legislation has financial implications.

**Summary of Changes to Revenue Generated Specifically From This Legislation:**

	Revenue Source	2011 Proposed	2012 Proposed
<b>Total Fees and Charges Resulting From Passage of This Ordinance</b>	For Hire License Fees	\$100,000	\$100,000

*Notes:* Although the annual cost of a For-Hire License has been reduced, more for-hire drivers in Seattle will pay this license fee.

**Anticipated Total Revenue from Entire Program, Including Changes Resulting From This Legislation:**

Fund Name and Number	Revenue Source	Total 2011 Revenue	Total 2011 and 2012 Anticipated Revenue from Entire Program
Fleets and Facilities Fund (50300)	License Fees	\$100,000	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

What is the financial cost of not implementing this legislation? The taxicab and for-hire regulatory programs will not be fully supported by license fee revenue as required. Alternatively, program reductions would be required in the taxicab and for-hire regulatory programs which will render them ineffective due to the small number of resources currently assigned.

Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department? No.

What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives? The only alternatives would be to subsidize the regulatory program using General Fund revenue or raise existing license fees further which will increase the fee inequities between Seattle-only and dual-licensed for-hire drivers.

Is the legislation subject to public hearing requirements? No.

Other Issues (including long-term implications of the legislation): None.

Please list attachments to the fiscal note below: None.





**City of Seattle**  
Office of the Mayor

September 27, 2010

Honorable Richard Conlin  
President  
Seattle City Council  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Dear Council President Conlin:

I am transmitting the attached proposed Council Bill for consideration with the 2011 Proposed Budget that reduces the annual Seattle for-hire driver license regulatory fee and eliminates the fee exemption for Seattle for-hire driver licensees with King County endorsements. These changes, which generate an additional \$100,000 in annual revenue, will provide equity among Seattle for-hire drivers so that they all pay the same fee and share equally in the cost of regulation.

The City recovers the cost of its taxicab and for-hire regulatory program from annual fees paid by drivers and owners. Under the current fee structure, for-hire drivers with license endorsements for Seattle pay an annual \$75 license fee; however, this fee is waived if the driver has a dual license endorsement for King County and Seattle. These drivers currently pay an annual license fee of \$100 to King County, but nothing to the City of Seattle. The City and the County operate independent regulatory programs.

Under the fee structure proposed in this Council Bill, all for-hire drivers who operate in Seattle will pay a \$50 annual license fee. This is a more equitable way of allocating the costs of operating Seattle's for-hire vehicle regulatory program. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Denise Movius, Director of Revenue and Consumer Affairs at 684-9259.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council



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STATE OF WASHINGTON – KING COUNTY

--SS.

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264499  
CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

No.

**Affidavit of Publication**

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

CT:123472 ORDINANCE

was published on

12/16/10

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$ 136.50, which amount has been paid in full.



Affidavit of Publication

Subscribed and sworn to before me on

12/16/10

Notary public for the State of Washington,  
residing in Seattle

# State of Washington, King County

## City of Seattle

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President Richard Conlin of the City Council

Approved by me this 2nd day of December, 2010.

Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this 2nd day of December, 2010.

(Seal) Monica Martinez-Simmons

City Clerk

Publication ordered by the City Clerk

Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, December 16, 2010.

12/16(264499)