Tom Mikesell

Date:

6/30/20

Version:

1

**Amendment B** 

To

**Amendment 20** 

**CB #119810 – Payroll Expense Tax** 

**Sponsor: Sawant** 

5.38.030 Tax imposed—Rate

A. A payroll expense tax is hereby levied upon and shall be collected from every person

engaging in business within Seattle.

B. The amount of the payroll expense tax due shall be the payroll expense of the

business, subject to any deductions authorized under this Chapter 5.38, multiplied by the

following rates:

1. For businesses with payroll expense up to \$1 billion99,999,999,99, the rate

shall be:

a. Seven-tenths 0.87 percent of the payroll expense of employees with

annual compensation of \$150,000 to \$4399,999.99; and

b. One and fourseven-tenths2.11 percent of the payroll expense of

employees with annual compensation of \$5400,000 or more.

2. For businesses with payroll expense of \$100 million to \$999,999,999,99, the

rate shall be:

a. Seven-tenths 0.87 percent of the payroll expense of employees with

annual compensation of \$150,000 to \$399,999.99; and

b. One and nine-tenths 2.36 percent of the payroll expense of employees

with annual compensation of \$400,000 or more.

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23. For businesses with payroll expense of greater than \$1 billion or greater, the rate shall

be:

a. One and four-tenths 1.74 percent of the payroll expense of employees with annual compensation of \$150,000 to \$4399,999.99; and

b. Two and one four-tenths 2.98 percent of the payroll expense of employees with annual compensation of \$5400,000 or more.

C. The tax imposed by this Chapter 5.38 is levied on businesses. A business may not make any deductions from employees' compensation to pay for this tax.

**Effect:** Relative to Amendment 20, the B alternate would increase rates in all payroll and compensation tier to generate an estimated additional \$50 million annually.

The new rates would be as follows:

- Within the \$7m to \$99.9 million tiers, the following tax rates would apply:
  - o Compensation of \$150,000 to \$399,000: 0.87%
  - o Compensation of \$400,000 and above: 2.11%.
- Within the \$100m to \$999.9 million payroll tier, the following tax rates would apply:
  - o Compensation of \$150,000 to \$399,000: 0.87%
  - o Compensation of \$400,000 and above: 2.36%.
- Within the greater than \$1 billion payroll tier, the following tax rates would apply:
  - o Compensation of \$150,000 to \$399,000: 1.74%
  - o Compensation of \$400,000 and above: 2.98%.

The newly generated revenues are associated with an amendment to CB119811, to build 1,000+homes in the Central District for people 0 - 80% AMI.