

HB 1795

A More Progressive Estate Tax

In Washington, we believe every person deserves an equal opportunity to live with dignity and thrive, no matter how much money their parents had.

However, Washington's wealthiest families are currently passing on fortunes to their kids while contributing the bare minimum to the communities we all share. Meanwhile, working families are paying six times more of our incomes in taxes, and families of color who have been historically excluded from wealth-building opportunities and homeownership continue to struggle.

Washington's estate tax is the most progressive tool in our state's revenue toolkit. By making simple improvements, we can raise an additional \$60 million per biennium to fund efforts to reduce intergenerational poverty.

Reforming Washington's estate tax:

- Increase tax rates on those who pass down estates valued over \$3 million
- Exclude the first \$2.6 million in estate value from taxation, increased from \$2.2 million under current law
- Narrow a loophole that currently allows rich families to avoid paying estate taxes by transferring wealth to a family foundation
- Revenue from these changes will fund efforts to reduce intergenerational poverty

By working to improve the estate tax, we'll take another step toward balancing our tax code. New funds will bolster our communities, secure financial well-being for working families, and ensure Washington's wealthiest start to pay what they truly owe. Together, we are building the future we want to see in Washington.

