

CHAPTER 224.

[H. B. 143.]

STATE AGENCIES—REFUNDS OF ERRONEOUS OR
EXCESS PAYMENTS.

AN ACT relating to refunds of erroneous or excessive payments or fees and limiting the minimum amount thereof.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Whenever any law which provides for the collection of fees or other payments by a state agency does not authorize the refund of erroneous or excessive payments thereof, refunds may be made or authorized by the state agency which collected the fees or payments of all such amounts received by the state agency in consequence of error, either of fact or of law as to: (1) The proper amount of such fee or payments; (2) The necessity of making or securing a permit, filing, examination or inspection; (3) The sufficiency of the credentials of an applicant; (4) The eligibility of an applicant for any other reason; (5) The necessity for the payment.

Refunds on erroneous or excessive payments.

SEC. 2. Any state agency desiring to authorize such a refund shall file with the state auditor a voucher naming the payee and giving full particulars as to the reason for the refund and the fund in the treasury to which it was credited.

File voucher with state auditor.

SEC. 3. Payment of such refunds shall be by warrant issued by the state auditor against the fund in the state treasury to which the erroneous or excessive payment was credited or from any other appropriation made for such refund.

Payment of refund.

SEC. 4. No such refund shall be authorized by a state agency where the amount is two dollars or less unless demand for the refund is made within

Limitation on refund.

six months from the date the erroneous or excessive payment was made.

Passed the House February 17, 1955.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1955.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1955.

CHAPTER 225.

[H. B. 233.]

CHRISTMAS TREES—UNLAWFUL TAKING—REPORTS.

AN Act relating to Christmas trees and regulating the taking and transportation thereof; prescribing penalties, and amending section 1, chapter 87, Laws of 1937 and RCW 79.40.070, and section 6, chapter 112, Laws of 1937 and RCW 19.12.070.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Amendment.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 87, Laws of 1937 and RCW 79.40.070 are each amended to read as follows:

Unlawful to cut, break or remove for commercial purposes evergreen trees.

It shall be unlawful for any person to enter upon any of the state lands, including all land under the jurisdiction of the state forest board, or upon any private land without the permission of the owner thereof and to cut, break or remove therefrom for commercial purposes any evergreen trees, commonly known as Christmas trees, including fir, hemlock, spruce, and pine trees. Any person cutting, breaking or removing or causing to be cut, broken or removed, or who cuts down, cuts off, breaks, tops, or destroys any of such Christmas trees shall be liable to the state, or to the private owner thereof, for payment for such trees at a price of one dollar each if payment is made immediately upon demand. Should it be necessary to institute civil action to recover the value of such trees, the state in the case of state lands, or the owner in case of private lands, may

Liability.