

**WHATCOM COUNTY
TREASURER'S OFFICE**
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STEVEN N. OLIVER
TREASURER

For Immediate Release

Date: March 13, 2020
Contact: Steve Oliver, Whatcom County Treasurer
Phone: 360-778-5160

Governor Inslee signs ESHB1332 into law today offering a 2021 real property tax deferral for businesses significantly impacted by COVID-19

Whatcom County Treasurer, Steve Oliver, announced that effective April 16, 2021, businesses that own real property primarily used for their business may apply for a 2021 property tax deferral up to December 31, 2021. To qualify, a business must demonstrate a loss of at least 25 percent of their gross revenue for calendar year 2020 compared to calendar year 2019. Eligible businesses must apply to the Whatcom County Treasurer no later than April 30, 2021. Once the deferral is approved, no interest or penalty will be charged against the property account if it is paid in full by December 31, 2021.

"It's unfortunate the State Legislature could not pass this emergency bill earlier in the legislative session so local businesses, that really need this type of assistance, could have had more than two weeks to learn about the opportunity, fill out the application and get it filed with our office," said Oliver. "But, we are prepared to assist local businesses and make this application process as simple as we can and still comply with the law," added Oliver.

The application form can be found on the Department of Revenue website:
<https://dor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Docs/forms/PropTx/Forms/64-0116.pdf>

Completed applications can preferably be submitted by email to the Whatcom County Treasurer's Office at treasurer@whatcomcounty.us, mailed to the office or placed in any of the payment drop boxes at the County Courthouse on or before April 30, 2021.

For questions and additional information, please email the Whatcom County Treasurer's Office at treasurer@whatcomcounty.us or call at 360-778-5160.