
SENATE BILL 6027

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Winsley, Haugen and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/10/94. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of urban emergency medical service
2 districts; amending RCW 84.52.069; and adding a new section to chapter
3 35.21 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The council of a city or town that has territory included in two
8 counties may adopt an ordinance creating an urban emergency medical
9 service district in all of the portion of the city or town that is
10 located in one of the two counties if: (1) The county in which the
11 urban emergency medical service district is located does not impose an
12 emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069; and (2)
13 the other county in which the city or town is located does impose an
14 emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069. The
15 ordinance creating the district may only be adopted after a public
16 hearing has been held on the creation of the district and the council
17 makes a finding that it is in the public interest to create the
18 district. The members of the city or town council, acting in an ex
19 officio capacity and independently, shall compose the governing body of

1 the urban emergency medical service district. The voters of an urban
2 emergency medical service district shall be all registered voters
3 residing within the urban emergency medical service district.

4 An urban emergency medical service district shall be a quasi-
5 municipal corporation and an independent taxing "authority" within the
6 meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution. Urban
7 emergency medical service districts shall also be "taxing authorities"
8 within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

9 An urban emergency medical service district shall have the
10 authority to contract under chapter 39.34 RCW with a county, city,
11 town, fire protection district, public hospital district, or emergency
12 medical service district to have emergency medical services provided
13 within its boundaries.

14 Territory located in the same county as an urban emergency medical
15 service district that is annexed by the city or town shall
16 automatically be annexed to the urban emergency medical service
17 district.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 84.52.069 and 1993 c 337 s 5 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 (1) As used in this section, "taxing district" means a county,
21 emergency medical service district, city or town, public hospital
22 district, urban emergency medical service district, or fire protection
23 district.

24 (2) A taxing district may impose additional regular property tax
25 levies in an amount equal to fifty cents or less per thousand dollars
26 of the assessed value of property in the taxing district in each year
27 for six consecutive years when specifically authorized so to do by a
28 majority of at least three-fifths of the registered voters thereof
29 approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted at a general
30 or special election, at which election the number of persons voting
31 "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number
32 equal to forty per centum of the total (~~(votes cast)~~) number of voters
33 voting in such taxing district at the last preceding general election
34 when the number of registered voters voting on the proposition does not
35 exceed forty per centum of the total (~~(votes cast)~~) number of voters
36 voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election;
37 or by a majority of at least three-fifths of the registered voters
38 thereof voting on the proposition when the number of registered voters

1 voting on the proposition exceeds forty per centum of the total ((votes
2 east)) number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last
3 preceding general election. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW
4 29.30.111.

5 (3) Any tax imposed under this section shall be used only for the
6 provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services,
7 including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and
8 related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the
9 provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services.

10 (4) If a county levies a tax under this section, no taxing district
11 within the county may levy a tax under this section. No other taxing
12 district may levy a tax under this section if another taxing district
13 has levied a tax under this section within its boundaries: PROVIDED,
14 That if a county levies less than fifty cents per thousand dollars of
15 the assessed value of property, then any other taxing district may levy
16 a tax under this section equal to the difference between the rate of
17 the levy by the county and fifty cents: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if a
18 taxing district within a county levies this tax, and the voters of the
19 county subsequently approve a levying of this tax, then the amount of
20 the taxing district levy within the county shall be reduced, when the
21 combined levies exceed fifty cents. Whenever a tax is levied county-
22 wide, the service shall, insofar as is feasible, be provided throughout
23 the county: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no county-wide levy proposal may be
24 placed on the ballot without the approval of the legislative authority
25 of each city exceeding fifty thousand population within the county:
26 AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section and RCW 36.32.480 shall not
27 prohibit any city or town from levying an annual excess levy to fund
28 emergency medical services: AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, That if a county
29 proposes to impose tax levies under this section, no other ballot
30 proposition authorizing tax levies under this section by another taxing
31 district in the county may be placed before the voters at the same
32 election at which the county ballot proposition is placed: AND
33 PROVIDED FURTHER, That any taxing district emergency medical service
34 levy that is authorized subsequent to a county emergency medical
35 service levy, shall expire concurrently with the county emergency
36 medical service levy.

37 (5) The tax levy authorized in this section is in addition to the
38 tax levy authorized in RCW 84.52.043.

1 (6) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 shall not apply to the first
2 levy imposed pursuant to this section following the approval of such
3 levy by the voters pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

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