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SENATE BILL 6355

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senator L. Smith

Read first time 01/20/94. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to expenditure limitations for local governments;  
2 adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Unless the context clearly requires  
5 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this  
6 chapter.

7 (1) "Expenditures" includes all expenditures of funds other than  
8 the expenditure of:

9 (a) Moneys received as a gift, grant, donation, aid, or assistance  
10 from any person, firm, or corporation, public or private, when the  
11 terms and conditions of such gift, grant, donation, aid, or assistance  
12 require the application and disbursement of such moneys otherwise than  
13 for the general purposes of the municipality;

14 (b) Moneys received as a gift, grant, donation, aid, or assistance  
15 from the United States or any department or agency of the United  
16 States; or

17 (c) Moneys received as a gift, grant, donation, aid, or assistance  
18 from the state or any department or agency of the state.

1 (2) "Municipality" means a city with a population greater than five  
2 thousand persons, a county with a population greater than ten thousand  
3 persons, a fire protection district, a library district, a metropolitan  
4 park district, a public utility district, and a port district.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) No municipality may expend in any fiscal  
6 year more than one hundred four percent of the municipality's  
7 expenditures in the previous fiscal year without the approval of the  
8 voters under section 4 of this act.

9 (2) The treasurer of a municipality shall not issue or redeem any  
10 check, warrant, or voucher that will result in an expenditure for any  
11 fiscal year in excess of the expenditure limit established under this  
12 chapter for the municipality.

13 (3) This section does not apply to expenditures in the first fiscal  
14 year by a municipality that is created after January 1, 1995, other  
15 than by consolidation or annexation. In applying the limit to  
16 expenditures in the second fiscal year to a municipality that was not  
17 in existence for the entire fiscal year, the expenditures for the first  
18 fiscal year shall be calculated by multiplying the average monthly  
19 expenditures by twelve.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The expenditure limitations contained in  
21 this chapter shall be calculated by the auditors of the respective  
22 municipalities in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Expenditures by a municipality may be  
24 made in a fiscal year in an amount exceeding the limitations provided  
25 in this chapter if the expenditures are authorized by a proposition  
26 approved by a majority of the voters of the municipality voting on the  
27 proposition at a general election held within the municipality.

28 (2) After approval under subsection (1) of this section, the  
29 expenditures made during the applicable fiscal year shall be used for  
30 the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent fiscal years.

31 (3) The ballot title for any vote of the people required under  
32 subsection (1) of this section shall be substantially as follows:

33 "Shall expenditures by ..... for fiscal year ... exceed the  
34 expenditure limit of ..... dollars by an additional amount

1 equal to ..... dollars and shall subsequent expenditure limits  
2 be based on this new total?"

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall  
4 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act shall take effect January 1, 1995,  
6 and shall apply to expenditures made beginning January 1, 1995.

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