HOUSE BILL 2407

State of Washington60th Legislature2007 Regular SessionBy Representatives VanDeWege and Simpson

Read first time 04/18/2007. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to the levy capacity of port districts; amending 2 RCW 84.55.092; and creating a new section.

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

4 Sec. 1. RCW 84.55.092 and 1998 c 16 s 3 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

(1) The regular property tax levy for each taxing district other 6 7 than the state or port districts may be set at the amount which would 8 be allowed otherwise under this chapter if the regular property tax 9 levy for the district for taxes due in prior years beginning with 1986 10 had been set at the full amount allowed under this chapter including any levy authorized under RCW 52.16.160 that would have been imposed 11 but for the limitation in RCW 52.18.065, applicable upon imposition of 12 13 the benefit charge under chapter 52.18 RCW.

14 (2) The regular property tax levy for a port district may be set at 15 the amount which would be allowed otherwise under this chapter if the 16 regular property tax levy for the district for taxes due in prior years 17 beginning with 1986 had been set at the full amount allowed under this 18 chapter. 1 (a) However, the levy may not be set to exceed an amount equal to 2 a factor, equal to one hundred percent plus inflation, multiplied by 3 the amount of regular property taxes lawfully levied for such district 4 in the highest of the three most recent years in which such taxes were 5 levied for such district plus an additional dollar amount as calculated 6 in (b) of this subsection.

7 (b) The additional dollar amount in (a) of this subsection is calculated by multiplying the increase in assessed value in that 8 district resulting from new construction; increases in assessed value 9 due to construction of electric generation wind turbine facilities 10 classified as personal property; improvements to property; and any 11 12 increase in the assessed value of state-assessed property by the 13 regular property tax levy rate of that district for the preceding year. 14 (3) The purpose of this section is to remove the incentive for a taxing district to maintain its tax levy at the maximum level permitted 15 under this chapter, and to protect the future levy capacity of a taxing 16 17 district that reduces its tax levy below the level that it otherwise could impose under this chapter, by removing the adverse consequences 18 to future levy capacities resulting from such levy reductions. 19

20 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** This act applies to taxes levied for 21 collection in 2008 and thereafter.

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