
SENATE BILL 5696

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Kauffman and McDermott

Read first time 01/29/09. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to the appointment of trustees for rural county
2 library districts located in counties with a population of one million
3 five hundred thousand or more; amending RCW 27.12.190; and creating a
4 new section.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 27.12.190 and 1982 c 123 s 8 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The management and control of a library shall be vested in a
9 board of either five or seven trustees as hereinafter in this section
10 provided.

11 (a) In cities and towns five trustees shall be appointed by the
12 mayor with the consent of the legislative body.

13 (b) Except as provided in (c) of this subsection:

14 (i) In counties, rural county library districts, and island library
15 districts, five trustees shall be appointed by the board of county
16 commissioners.

17 (ii) In a regional library district a board of either five or seven
18 trustees shall be appointed by the joint action of the legislative
19 bodies concerned.

1 (iii) In intercounty rural library districts a board of either five
2 or seven trustees shall be appointed by the joint action of the boards
3 of county commissioners of each of the counties included in a district.

4 (c) In a rural county library district located in a county with a
5 population of one million five hundred thousand or more, seven trustees
6 shall be appointed by the county legislative body.

7 (2) The first appointments for boards comprised of but five
8 trustees shall be for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years
9 respectively, and thereafter a trustee shall be appointed annually to
10 serve for five years. The first appointments for boards comprised of
11 seven trustees shall be for terms of one, two, three, four, five, six,
12 and seven years respectively, and thereafter a trustee shall be
13 appointed annually to serve for seven years. No person shall be
14 appointed to any board of trustees for more than two consecutive terms.
15 Vacancies shall be filled for unexpired terms as soon as possible in
16 the manner in which members of the board are regularly chosen.

17 (3) A library trustee shall not receive a salary or other
18 compensation for services as trustee, but necessary expenses actually
19 incurred shall be paid from the library funds.

20 (4) A library trustee in the case of a city or town may be removed
21 only by vote of the legislative body. A trustee of a county library,
22 a rural county library district library, or an island library district
23 library may be removed for just cause by the county commissioners after
24 a public hearing upon a written complaint stating the ground for
25 removal, which complaint, with a notice of the time and place of
26 hearing, shall have been served upon the trustee at least fifteen days
27 before the hearing. A trustee of an intercounty rural library district
28 may be removed by the joint action of the board of county commissioners
29 of the counties involved in the same manner as provided herein for the
30 removal of a trustee of a county library.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. For any library board of trustees increasing
32 from five to seven members under section 1 of this act:

33 (1) Appointments for the existing five trustee positions that are
34 made on or after January 1, 2010, shall be for terms of seven years;
35 and

36 (2) The appointing authority shall within four months of the
37 effective date of this act appoint two additional members to the board.

1 The additional members shall be appointed to terms of six and seven
2 years so that thereafter one trustee shall be appointed annually for a
3 term of seven years.

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