
SENATE BILL 5097

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Swecker, Snyder, Palmer and Haugen

Read first time 01/11/95. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to preserving port district debt limits; and
2 amending RCW 53.36.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 53.36.030 and 1991 c 314 s 29 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a port
7 district may at any time contract indebtedness or borrow money for
8 district purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor not
9 exceeding an amount, together with any existing indebtedness of the
10 district not authorized by the voters, of one-fourth of one percent of
11 the value of the taxable property in the district.

12 (b) Port districts having less than eight hundred million dollars
13 in value of taxable property during 1991 may at any time contract
14 indebtedness or borrow money for port district purposes and may issue
15 general obligation bonds therefor not exceeding an amount, combined
16 with existing indebtedness of the district not authorized by the
17 voters, of three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable
18 property in the district. Prior to contracting for any indebtedness
19 authorized by this subsection (1)(b), the port district must have a

1 comprehensive plan for harbor improvements or industrial development
2 and a long-term financial plan approved by the department of community,
3 trade, and economic development. The department of community, trade,
4 and economic development is immune from any liability for its part in
5 reviewing or approving port district's improvement or development
6 plans, or financial plans. Any indebtedness authorized by this
7 subsection (1)(b) may be used only to acquire or construct a facility,
8 and, prior to contracting for such indebtedness, the port district must
9 have a lease contract for a minimum of five years for the facility to
10 be acquired or constructed by the debt.

11 (2) With the assent of three-fifths of the voters voting thereon at
12 a general or special port election called for that purpose, a port
13 district may contract indebtedness or borrow money for district
14 purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor provided the
15 total indebtedness of the district at any such time shall not exceed
16 three-fourths of one percent of the value of the taxable property in
17 the district.

18 (3) In addition to the indebtedness authorized under subsections
19 (1) and (2) of this section, port districts having less than two
20 hundred million dollars in value of taxable property and operating a
21 municipal airport may at any time contract indebtedness or borrow money
22 for airport capital improvement purposes and may issue general
23 obligation bonds therefor not exceeding an additional one-eighth of one
24 percent of the value of the taxable property in the district without
25 authorization by the voters; and, with the assent of three-fifths of
26 the voters voting thereon at a general or special port election called
27 for that purpose, may contract indebtedness or borrow money for airport
28 capital improvement purposes and may issue general obligation bonds
29 therefor for an additional three-eighths of one percent provided the
30 total indebtedness of the district for all port purposes at any such
31 time shall not exceed one and one-fourth percent of the value of the
32 taxable property in the district.

33 (4) Any port district may issue general district bonds evidencing
34 any indebtedness, payable at any time not exceeding fifty years from
35 the date of the bonds. Any contract for indebtedness or borrowed money
36 authorized by RCW 53.36.030(1)(b) shall not exceed twenty-five years.
37 The bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.

38 (5) Elections required under this section shall be held as provided
39 in RCW 39.36.050.

1 (6) For the purpose of this section, "indebtedness of the district"
2 shall not include any debt of a county-wide district with a population
3 less than twenty-five hundred people when the debt is secured by a
4 mortgage on property leased to the federal government; and the term
5 "value of the taxable property" shall have the meaning set forth in RCW
6 39.36.015.

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