
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2873

State of Washington 56th Legislature 2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Parlette, Scott, Mulliken and Kessler

Read first time 01/21/2000. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing a city or town debt limit for
2 purposes of financing capital facilities associated with economic
3 development; amending RCW 39.36.020; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 39.36.020 and 1994 c 277 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) Except as otherwise expressly provided by law or in subsections
8 (2), (3) and (4) of this section, no taxing district shall for any
9 purpose become indebted in any manner to an amount exceeding
10 three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable property in
11 such taxing district without the assent of three-fifths of the voters
12 therein voting at an election to be held for that purpose, nor in cases
13 requiring such assent shall the total indebtedness incurred at any time
14 exceed one and one-fourth percent on the value of the taxable property
15 therein.

16 (2)(a)(i) Public hospital districts are limited to an indebtedness
17 amount not exceeding three-fourths of one percent of the value of the
18 taxable property in such public hospital districts without the assent

1 of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election held for
2 that purpose.

3 (ii) Counties, cities, and towns are limited to an indebtedness
4 amount not exceeding one and one-half percent of the value of the
5 taxable property in such counties, cities, or towns without the assent
6 of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election held for
7 that purpose.

8 (b) In cases requiring such assent counties, cities, towns, and
9 public hospital districts are limited to a total indebtedness of two
10 and one-half percent of the value of the taxable property therein.
11 However, any county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and
12 obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56
13 RCW may become indebted to a larger amount for its authorized
14 metropolitan functions, as provided under chapter 35.58 RCW, but not
15 exceeding an additional three-fourths of one percent of the value of
16 the taxable property in the county without the assent of three-fifths
17 of the voters therein voting at an election held for that purpose, and
18 in cases requiring such assent not exceeding an additional two and one-
19 half percent of the value of the taxable property in the county.

20 (3) School districts are limited to an indebtedness amount not
21 exceeding three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable
22 property in such district without the assent of three-fifths of the
23 voters therein voting at an election held for that purpose. In cases
24 requiring such assent school districts are limited to a total
25 indebtedness of two and one-half percent of the value of the taxable
26 property therein.

27 (4) No part of the indebtedness allowed in this chapter shall be
28 incurred for any purpose other than strictly county, city, town, school
29 district, township, port district, metropolitan park district, or other
30 municipal purposes: PROVIDED, That a city or town, with such assent,
31 may become indebted to a larger amount, but not exceeding two and one-
32 half percent additional, determined as herein provided, for supplying
33 such city or town with water, artificial light, and sewers, when the
34 works for supplying such water, light, and sewers shall be owned and
35 controlled by the city or town; and a city or town, with such assent,
36 may become indebted to a larger amount, but not exceeding two and one-
37 half percent additional for acquiring or developing open space ((and)),
38 park facilities, and capital facilities associated with economic
39 development: PROVIDED FURTHER, That those capital facilities are

1 located in an optional code city operating a mayor-council form of
2 government, in a county east of the Cascade range, west of the Columbia
3 river, and on state highway 2: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any school
4 district may become indebted to a larger amount but not exceeding two
5 and one-half percent additional for capital outlays.

6 (5) Such indebtedness may be authorized in any total amount in one
7 or more propositions and the amount of such authorization may exceed
8 the amount of indebtedness which could then lawfully be incurred. Such
9 indebtedness may be incurred in one or more series of bonds from time
10 to time out of such authorization but at no time shall the total
11 general indebtedness of any taxing district exceed the above
12 limitation.

13 The term "value of the taxable property" as used in this section
14 shall have the meaning set forth in RCW 39.36.015.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
17 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
18 immediately.

--- END ---