
HOUSE BILL 2873

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Reardon, Cooper, Sullivan, Morell, Lovick, Chase and Conway

Read first time 01/31/2002. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to property tax levies to support criminal justice
2 personnel and fire protection personnel; adding a new section to
3 chapter 84.52 RCW; and providing a contingent effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 84.52 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A county, city, town, or fire protection district may impose
8 additional property tax levies in an amount equal to fifty cents or
9 less per thousand dollars of the assessed value of property in the
10 taxing district, in each year for up to ten consecutive years, when
11 authorized so to do by the voters of the taxing district in the manner
12 set forth in Article VII, section 2 of the Constitution of this state.

13 (2) Any tax imposed under this section must be used as additional
14 resources for criminal justice personnel or fire protection personnel,
15 or both, including related personnel costs, and training for personnel,
16 and may not be used to supplant other sources of funding for those
17 purposes.

18 (3) If a county levies a tax under this section, no taxing district
19 within the county may levy a tax under this section. No other taxing

1 district may levy a tax under this section if another taxing district
2 has levied a tax under this section within its boundaries. The
3 limitations in this subsection (3) do not apply in the following
4 instances:

5 (a) If a county levies less than fifty cents per thousand dollars
6 of the assessed value of property, then any other taxing district may
7 levy a tax under this section equal to the difference between the rate
8 of the levy by the county and fifty cents.

9 (b) If a taxing district within a county levies this tax, and the
10 voters of the county subsequently approve a levying of this tax, then
11 the amount of the taxing district levy within the county shall be
12 reduced, when the combined levies exceed fifty cents.

13 (4) No countywide levy proposal may be placed on the ballot without
14 the approval of the legislative authority of each city exceeding fifty
15 thousand population within the county.

16 (5) If a county proposes to impose tax levies under this section,
17 no other ballot proposition authorizing tax levies under this section
18 by another taxing district in the county may be placed before the
19 voters at the same election at which the county ballot proposition is
20 placed.

21 (6) If a ballot proposition approved under subsection (1) of this
22 section did not impose the maximum allowable levy amount authorized for
23 the taxing district under this section, any future increase up to the
24 maximum allowable levy amount must be specifically authorized by the
25 voters in accordance with subsection (1) of this section at a general
26 or special election.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2003, if
28 the proposed amendment to Article VII, section 2 of the state
29 Constitution that authorizes multiyear excess property tax levies for
30 the purpose of improving funding for criminal justice personnel or fire
31 protection personnel is validly submitted to and is approved and
32 ratified by the voters at the next general election. If the proposed
33 amendment is not approved and ratified, this act is void in its
34 entirety.

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