
HOUSE BILL 2790

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Braddock, Morris, Paris, Riley, Wood and Brekke

Read first time 01/28/92. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to community college benefit districts; adding new
2 sections to chapter 28B.50 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The legislative authority of any county may submit a ballot
7 proposition to voters of all or a portion of the county authorizing the
8 creation of a community college benefit district for the purpose of
9 funding costs associated with improving the quality of instruction at
10 community colleges. The legislative authorities of any two or more
11 counties may submit a ballot proposition to the voters of all or part
12 of the counties authorizing the creation of a community college benefit
13 district.

1 (2) A community college benefit district is a quasi-municipal
2 corporation and shall have the power to enter into contracts with
3 community colleges for the purpose of funding costs associated with
4 improving the quality of instruction in community colleges located
5 within the district's boundaries. The legislative authority of any
6 county or counties forming such a district may provide staff necessary
7 to carry out the purposes of the district.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) A county legislative authority proposing to establish a
11 community college benefit district shall conduct a hearing at the time
12 and place specified in a notice published at least once, not less than
13 ten days prior to the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation
14 within the proposed community college benefit district. This notice
15 shall be in addition to any other notice required by law to be
16 published. Additional notice of the hearing may be given by mail,
17 posting within the proposed community college benefit district, or in
18 any manner the county legislative authority deems necessary to notify
19 affected persons. All hearings shall be public and the county
20 legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by
21 the formation of the community college benefit district.

22 (2) Following the hearing held under subsection (1) of this
23 section, the county legislative authority may adopt a resolution
24 providing for the submission of a ballot proposition to establish a
25 community college benefit district. Such ballot proposition shall be
26 submitted to the affected voters at the next general election held
27 sixty or more days after the adoption of the resolution providing for
28 the submittal by the county legislative authority. The resolution
29 shall establish the boundaries of the proposed community college

1 benefit district and include a finding that the creation of the
2 district is in the public interest and that the area included within
3 the district can reasonably be expected to benefit from its creation.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The ballot proposition to create a community college benefit
7 district shall include language authorizing a community college benefit
8 district, if the district is created, to impose an excise tax of up to
9 two dollars per full-time equivalent employee per month on all
10 employers or any class or classes of employers, public and private,
11 including any state agency located in the district's jurisdiction.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) The management and control of a community college benefit
15 district shall be vested in a board of seven trustees appointed by the
16 legislative authority or authorities forming the district. Four of the
17 trustees shall be appointed for an initial term of four years. The
18 remaining trustees shall be appointed for an initial term of two years.
19 Thereafter, each trustee shall be appointed for a term of four years.
20 No person may serve for more than two consecutive terms. Vacancies
21 shall be filled for unexpired terms as soon as possible in the manner
22 in which members of the board are regularly chosen. A community
23 college benefit district trustee shall not receive a salary or other
24 compensation for services as trustee, but necessary expenses actually
25 incurred shall be paid from the community college benefit district
26 funds. A community college benefit district trustee may be removed
27 only by vote of the legislative body of the county or counties forming
28 the district.

1 (2) The trustees, immediately after their appointment, shall meet
2 and organize by the election of such officers as they deem necessary.
3 They shall:

4 (a) Adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations for their own
5 guidance and for the government of the community college benefit
6 district as they deem expedient;

7 (b) Submit annually to the legislative body a budget containing
8 estimates in detail of the amount of money necessary for the community
9 college benefit district for the ensuing year;

10 (c) Have exclusive control of the finances of the community college
11 benefit district;

12 (d) Accept such gifts of money or property for community college
13 benefit district purposes as they deem expedient; and

14 (e) Do all other acts necessary for the orderly and efficient
15 management and control of the community college benefit district.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 If a ballot proposition is approved pursuant to section 2 of this
19 act, a community college benefit district may, with voter approval,
20 impose an excise tax of up to two dollars per full-time equivalent
21 employee per month on all employers or any class or classes of
22 employers, public and private, including any state agency located in
23 the district's jurisdiction. The district imposing the tax authorized
24 in this section may provide for exemptions from the tax to such
25 educational, cultural, health, charitable, or religious organizations
26 it deems appropriate. A community college benefit district may
27 contract with the department of revenue or other appropriate entities
28 for administration and collection of the tax. Such contract shall

1 provide for deduction of an amount for administration and collection
2 expenses.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
6 effect immediately.