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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 36.21.011 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 11 s 1 are each
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (1) Any assessor who deems it necessary to enable ~~((him))~~ the
10 assessor to complete the listing and the valuation of the property of
11 ~~((his))~~ the county within the time prescribed by law, ~~((+1))~~ (a) may
12 appoint one or more well qualified persons to act as ~~((his))~~ assistants
13 or deputies who shall not engage in the private practice of appraising
14 within the county in which he or she is employed without the written
15 permission of the county assessor filed with the county auditor; and
16 each such assistant or deputy so appointed shall, under the direction
17 of the assessor, after taking the required oath, be authorized to
18 perform all the duties enjoined upon, vested in or imposed upon
19 assessors, and ~~((+2))~~ (b) may contract with any persons, firms or
20 corporations, who are expert appraisers, to assist in the valuation of
21 property.

22 (2) To assist each assessor in obtaining adequate and well
23 qualified assistants or deputies, the state department of personnel,
24 after consultation with the Washington state association of county
25 assessors, the Washington state association of counties, and the
26 department of revenue, shall establish ~~((by July 1, 1967,))~~ and ~~((shall~~
27 ~~thereafter))~~ maintain~~((,))~~ a classification and salary plan for those
28 employees of an assessor who act as appraisers. The plan shall
29 recommend the salary range and employment qualifications for each
30 position encompassed by it, and shall, to the fullest extent
31 practicable, conform to the classification plan, salary schedules and
32 employment qualifications for state employees performing similar
33 appraisal functions.

34 ~~((If an assessor intends to put such plan into effect in his~~
35 ~~county, he))~~ (3) An assessor may request a committee be formed to
36 determine the level and duration of funding necessary to complete the

1 listing and the valuation of the property of the county within the time
2 prescribed by law and shall inform the department of revenue and the
3 ((board of)) county ((commissioners)) legislative authority and county
4 executive, if any, of this ((intent)) request in writing. ((The
5 department of revenue and the board may thereupon each designate a
6 representative, and such representative or representatives as may be
7 designated by the department of revenue or the board, or both, shall
8 form with the assessor a committee. The committee so formed may, by
9 unanimous vote only, determine the required number of certified
10 appraiser positions and their salaries necessary to enable the county
11 assessor to carry out the requirements relating to revaluation of
12 property in chapter 84.41 RCW. The determination of the committee
13 shall be certified to the board of county commissioners. The committee
14 provided for herein may be formed only once in a period of four
15 calendar years.

16 After such determination, the assessor may provide, in each of his
17 four next succeeding annual budget estimates, for as many positions as
18 are established in such determination. Each board of county
19 commissioners to which such a budget estimate is submitted shall allow
20 sufficient funds for such positions. An employee may be appointed to
21 a position covered by the plan only if the employee meets the
22 employment qualifications established by the plan.)) The department
23 shall reply to the assessor in writing, with a copy provided to the
24 county legislative authority and county executive, if any, indicating
25 whether the department will participate in forming a committee to study
26 the assessor's request. Thereafter, in its discretion, the department
27 may designate a representative who, together with a designated member
28 of the county legislative authority and the assessor, shall form the
29 committee.

30 (4) The committee shall meet for the purpose of reviewing the
31 assessor's request and make unanimous findings and recommendations to
32 determine the level of funding and the duration of funding with respect
33 to appraisers, support staff, computer equipment and software, and
34 other resources, necessary for the assessor to adequately maintain and
35 complete the county revaluation program and list and value personal
36 property within the time required by law and to place new construction
37 on the assessment rolls on a regular annual basis.

38 (5) Within sixty days of the first meeting of the committee, or
39 such additional time as may be determined by the committee, the

1 representative of the department of revenue shall report the
2 committee's unanimous findings and recommendations to the director of
3 the department of revenue or his or her designee. The representative
4 of the department shall also make recommendations regarding any
5 unresolved issues, which shall be decided by the director or his or her
6 designee.

7 (6) The department shall prepare a contract in accordance with the
8 findings and recommendations of the committee and the decisions of the
9 director or his or her designee to be signed by the assessor and the
10 county legislative authority. The contract shall include the following
11 provisions:

12 (a) A specified level of funding for a specified number of years to
13 be provided on an annual basis to the assessor's office by the county
14 legislative authority;

15 (b) Assurance by the assessor that the funds will be used in
16 accordance with the findings and recommendations of the committee and
17 the decisions of the director or his or her designee so as to
18 adequately maintain and complete the county revaluation program within
19 the time required by law and to place new construction on the
20 assessment rolls on a regular annual basis;

21 (c) A procedure for the county legislative authority to request
22 evaluation by the department of revenue of the assessor's performance
23 under the terms of the contract; and

24 (d) A provision that the county legislative authority is not
25 obligated to continue to provide the specified funding level if the
26 evaluation by the department of revenue concludes that the assessor is
27 not meeting the contract requirements.

28 (7) The county legislative authority may request a loan under the
29 provisions of section 2 of this act to assist in carrying out the
30 provisions of the contract described in subsection (6) of this section.
31 If insufficient funding exists to make the loan, the county making the
32 request may delay providing the funding level specified in the contract
33 until such a loan can be made available.

34 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 36.21 RCW
35 to read as follows:

36 (1) The assessors' assistance fund is created in the custody of the
37 state treasurer. The fund may be used only for making loans to
38 counties in accordance with the provisions of RCW 36.21.011. All

1 receipts from repayment to the fund and interest on the loans from the
2 fund shall be deposited into the fund. Only the director of the
3 department of revenue or the director's designee may authorize
4 expenditures from the fund. The fund is subject to allotment
5 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required
6 for expenditures.

7 (2) All loans made from the assessors' assistance fund shall be
8 made subject to the availability of funds and repaid from any fund
9 under the control of the county legislative authority by the county
10 receiving the loan in accordance with a schedule established by the
11 department of revenue in consultation with the county legislative
12 authority. Interest on the outstanding balance of the loan shall
13 accrue at the rate specified in RCW 84.69.100 in effect on the date of
14 the loan and continue at that rate until paid in full.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
16 act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June 30,
17 1994, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act shall be null and
18 void.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of revenue shall adopt rules
20 consistent with chapter 34.05 RCW and the provisions of this chapter as
21 necessary or desirable to permit the effective administration of this
22 chapter.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1994."

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