
SENATE BILL 5751

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen and Spanel

Read first time 02/11/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to rural partial-county library districts; amending
2 RCW 27.12.010 and 84.52.052; and adding a new section to chapter 27.12
3 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 27.12 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 A rural partial-county library district may be created in a portion
8 of the unincorporated area of a county as provided in this section if
9 a rural library district or island library district has not been
10 created in the county and the area proposed to be included in a rural
11 partial-county library district has an assessed valuation of at least
12 fifty million dollars.

13 The procedure to create a rural partial-county library district is
14 initiated by the filing of petitions with the county auditor proposing
15 the creation of the district that have been signed by at least ten
16 percent of the registered voters residing in the area proposed to be
17 included in the rural partial-county library district. The county
18 auditor shall review the petitions and certify the sufficiency or
19 insufficiency of the signatures to the county legislative authority.

1 If the petitions are certified as having sufficient valid
2 signatures, the county legislative authority shall hold a public
3 hearing on the proposed rural partial-county library district, may
4 adjust the boundaries of the proposed district, and may cause a ballot
5 proposition to be submitted to the voters of the proposed rural
6 partial-county library district authorizing its creation if the county
7 legislative authority finds that the creation of the rural partial-
8 county library district is in the public interest. A subsequent public
9 hearing shall be held if additional territory is added to the proposed
10 rural partial-county library district by action of the county
11 legislative authority.

12 The rural partial-county library district shall be created if the
13 ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the district is approved
14 by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition.
15 Immediately after creation of the rural partial-county library district
16 the county legislative authority shall appoint a board of library
17 trustees for the district as provided under RCW 27.12.190.

18 Except as provided in this section, a rural partial-county library
19 district is subject to all the provisions of law applicable to a rural
20 county library district and shall have all the powers, duties, and
21 authorities of a rural county library district, including, but not
22 limited to, the authority to impose property taxes, incur debt, and
23 annex a city or town with a population of less than one hundred
24 thousand at the time of the annexation that is located in the same
25 county as the rural partial-county library district.

26 Adjacent unincorporated territory in the county may be annexed to
27 a rural partial-county library district in the same manner as territory
28 is annexed to a sewer district, except that an annexation is not
29 subject to potential review by a boundary review board.

30 If a ballot proposition is approved creating a rural county library
31 district in the county, every rural partial-county library district in
32 that county shall be dissolved and its assets and liabilities
33 transferred to the rural county library district. Where a rural
34 partial-county library district has annexed a city or town, the voters
35 of the city or town shall be allowed to vote on the proposed creation
36 of a rural county library district and, if created, the rural county
37 library district shall include each city and town that was annexed to
38 the rural partial-county library district.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 27.12.010 and 1982 c 123 s 1 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 As used in this chapter (~~and chapter 27.08 RCW~~), unless the
4 context requires a different meaning:

5 (1) "Governmental unit" means any county, city, town, rural county
6 library district, intercounty rural library district, or island library
7 district;

8 (2) "Legislative body" means the body authorized to determine the
9 amount of taxes to be levied in a governmental unit; in rural county
10 library districts, in intercounty rural library districts, and in
11 island library districts, the legislative body shall be the board of
12 library trustees of the district;

13 (3) "Library" means a free public library supported in whole or in
14 part with money derived from taxation; (~~and~~)

15 (4) "Regional library" means a free public library maintained by
16 two or more counties or other governmental units as provided in RCW
17 27.12.080; (~~and~~)

18 (5) "Rural county library district" means a library serving all the
19 area of a county not included within the area of incorporated cities
20 and towns: PROVIDED, That any city or town with a population of one
21 hundred thousand or less at the time of annexation may be included
22 therein as provided in RCW 27.12.360 through 27.12.390; (~~and~~)

23 (6) "Intercounty rural library district" means a municipal
24 corporation organized to provide library service for all areas outside
25 of incorporated cities and towns within two or more counties:
26 PROVIDED, That any city or town with a population of one hundred
27 thousand or less at the time of annexation may be included therein as
28 provided in RCW 27.12.360 through 27.12.390; (~~and~~)

29 (7) "Island library district" means a municipal corporation
30 organized to provide library service for all areas outside of
31 incorporated cities and towns on a single island only, and not all of
32 the area of the county, in counties composed entirely of islands and
33 having a population of less than twenty-five thousand at the time the
34 island library district was created: PROVIDED, That any city or town
35 with a population of one hundred thousand or less at the time of
36 annexation may be included therein as provided in RCW 27.12.360 through
37 27.12.390; and

38 (8) "Rural partial-county library district" means a municipal
39 corporation organized to provide library service for a portion of the

1 unincorporated area of a county that has an assessed valuation of at
2 least fifty million dollars. Any city or town located in the same
3 county as a rural partial-county library district may annex to the
4 district if the city or town has a population of one hundred thousand
5 or less at the time of annexation.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 84.52.052 and 1991 c 138 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 The limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056, and RCW
9 84.52.043 shall not prevent the levy of additional taxes by any taxing
10 district except school districts in which a larger levy is necessary in
11 order to prevent the impairment of the obligation of contracts. As
12 used in this section, the term "taxing district" means any county,
13 metropolitan park district, park and recreation service area, park and
14 recreation district, sewer district, water district, solid waste
15 disposal district, public facilities district, flood control zone
16 district, county rail district, service district, public hospital
17 district, road district, rural county library district, island library
18 district, rural partial-county library district, intercounty rural
19 library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city,
20 town, transportation benefit district, emergency medical service
21 district with a population density of less than one thousand per square
22 mile, or cultural arts, stadium, and convention district.

23 Any such taxing district may levy taxes at a rate in excess of the
24 rate specified in RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056 and 84.52.043, or RCW
25 84.55.010 through 84.55.050, when authorized so to do by the voters of
26 such taxing district in the manner set forth in Article VII, section
27 2(a) of the Constitution of this state, as amended by Amendment 64 and
28 as thereafter amended, at a special or general election to be held in
29 the year in which the levy is made.

30 A special election may be called and the time therefor fixed by the
31 county legislative authority, or council, board of commissioners, or
32 other governing body of any such taxing district, by giving notice
33 thereof by publication in the manner provided by law for giving notices
34 of general elections, at which special election the proposition
35 authorizing such excess levy shall be submitted in such form as to

1 enable the voters favoring the proposition to vote "yes" and those
2 opposed thereto to vote "no."

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