
HOUSE BILL 3000

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Vick, Harris, Kraft, Walsh, Hayes, Manweller, Taylor, Pike, Young, Maycumber, Van Werven, Hargrove, Caldier, and Chandler

Read first time 02/26/18. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing property tax relief to all
2 Washingtonians for taxes levied for collection in 2018; amending RCW
3 84.52.065 and 84.69.020; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that property
6 taxes create a substantial burden on Washingtonians, especially for
7 those subject to high local and regional property taxes and for those
8 on fixed incomes. The legislature further recognizes the state of
9 Washington is projected to receive more than 1.3 billion dollars in
10 extra revenue over the next four years. It is therefore the
11 legislature's intent to lower the property tax rate and issue
12 property tax refunds for calendar year 2018 in order to return excess
13 state revenue back to the taxpayers who earned it.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 84.52.065 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 13 s 301 are each
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, subject to
17 the limitations in RCW 84.55.010, in each year the state (~~shall~~)
18 must levy for collection in the following year for the support of
19 common schools of the state a tax of three dollars and sixty cents
20 per thousand dollars of assessed value upon the assessed valuation of

1 all taxable property within the state adjusted to the state equalized
2 value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state
3 department of revenue.

4 (b) For property taxes levied for collection in calendar year
5 2018, the rate of the tax is the rate necessary to bring the
6 aggregate rate for state property tax levies levied under this
7 subsection and subsection (2) of this section to a combined rate of
8 2.365 dollars per thousand dollars of assessed value.

9 (2)(a) In addition to the tax authorized under subsection (1) of
10 this section, the state must levy an additional property tax for the
11 support of common schools of the state.

12 (i) For taxes levied for collection in calendar year 2018, the
13 rate of tax is ninety-four cents per thousand dollars of assessed
14 value.

15 (ii) For taxes levied for collection in calendar years ((2018))
16 2019 through 2021, the rate of tax is the rate necessary to bring the
17 aggregate rate for state property tax levies levied under this
18 subsection and subsection (1) of this section to a combined rate of
19 two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of assessed value
20 upon the assessed valuation of all taxable property within the state
21 adjusted to the state equalized value in accordance with the
22 indicated ratio fixed by the state department of revenue.

23 ~~((ii))~~ (iii) For taxes levied for collection in calendar year
24 2022 and thereafter, the tax authorized under this subsection (2) is
25 subject to the limitations of chapter 84.55 RCW.

26 (b) Taxes collected under this subsection (2) must be deposited
27 into the state general fund.

28 (3) For taxes levied for collection in calendar years 2019
29 through 2021, the state property taxes levied under subsections (1)
30 and (2) of this section are not subject to the limitations in chapter
31 84.55 RCW.

32 (4) For taxes levied for collection in calendar year 2022 and
33 thereafter, the aggregate rate limit for state property taxes levied
34 under subsections (1) and (2) of this section is three dollars and
35 sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value upon the assessed
36 valuation of all taxable property within the state adjusted to the
37 state equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by
38 the state department of revenue.

39 (5) For property taxes levied for collection in calendar years
40 2019 through 2021, the rate of tax levied under subsection (1) of

1 this section is the actual rate that was levied for collection in
2 calendar year 2018 under subsection (1) of this section.

3 (6) As used in this section, "the support of common schools"
4 includes the payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued
5 for capital construction projects for the common schools.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 84.69.020 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 13 s 310 are each
7 amended to read as follows:

8 On the order of the county treasurer, ad valorem taxes paid
9 before or after delinquency must be refunded if they were:

10 (1) Paid more than once;

11 (2) Paid as a result of manifest error in description;

12 (3) Paid as a result of a clerical error in extending the tax
13 rolls;

14 (4) Paid as a result of other clerical errors in listing
15 property;

16 (5) Paid with respect to improvements which did not exist on
17 assessment date;

18 (6) Paid under levies or statutes adjudicated to be illegal or
19 unconstitutional;

20 (7) Paid as a result of mistake, inadvertence, or lack of
21 knowledge by any person exempted from paying real property taxes or a
22 portion thereof pursuant to RCW 84.36.381 through 84.36.389, as now
23 or hereafter amended;

24 (8) Paid as a result of mistake, inadvertence, or lack of
25 knowledge by either a public official or employee or by any person
26 with respect to real property in which the person paying the same has
27 no legal interest;

28 (9) Paid on the basis of an assessed valuation which was appealed
29 to the county board of equalization and ordered reduced by the board;

30 (10) Paid on the basis of an assessed valuation which was
31 appealed to the state board of tax appeals and ordered reduced by the
32 board: PROVIDED, That the amount refunded under subsections (9) and
33 (10) of this section (~~shall~~) may only be for the difference between
34 the tax paid on the basis of the appealed valuation and the tax
35 payable on the valuation adjusted in accordance with the board's
36 order;

37 (11) Paid as a state property tax levied upon property, the
38 assessed value of which has been established by the state board of
39 tax appeals for the year of such levy: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the

1 amount refunded (~~shall~~) may only be for the difference between the
2 state property tax paid and the amount of state property tax which
3 would, when added to all other property taxes within the one percent
4 limitation of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution equal
5 one percent of the assessed value established by the board;

6 (12) Paid on the basis of an assessed valuation which was
7 adjudicated to be unlawful or excessive: PROVIDED, That the amount
8 refunded shall be for the difference between the amount of tax which
9 was paid on the basis of the valuation adjudged unlawful or excessive
10 and the amount of tax payable on the basis of the assessed valuation
11 determined as a result of the proceeding;

12 (13) Paid on property acquired under RCW 84.60.050, and canceled
13 under RCW 84.60.050(2);

14 (14) Paid on the basis of an assessed valuation that was reduced
15 under RCW 84.48.065;

16 (15) Paid on the basis of an assessed valuation that was reduced
17 under RCW 84.40.039; (~~or~~)

18 (16) Abated under RCW 84.70.010; or

19 (17) Levies authorized under RCW 84.52.065, levied for collection
20 in 2018, and paid prior to the enactment of chapter . . . , Laws of
21 2018 (this act): PROVIDED, the amount of refund must only be for the
22 difference between the state property tax paid and the state property
23 tax due after the enactment of chapter . . . , Laws of 2018 (this
24 act).

25 No refunds under the provisions of this section (~~shall~~) may be
26 made because of any error in determining the valuation of property,
27 except as authorized in subsections (9), (10), (11), and (12) of this
28 section nor may any refunds be made if a bona fide purchaser has
29 acquired rights that would preclude the assessment and collection of
30 the refunded tax from the property that should properly have been
31 charged with the tax. Any refunds made on delinquent taxes must
32 include the proportionate amount of interest and penalties paid.
33 However, no refunds as a result of an incorrect payment authorized
34 under subsection (8) of this section made by a third party payee
35 (~~shall~~) may be granted. The county treasurer may deduct from moneys
36 collected for the benefit of the state's levies, refunds of the
37 state's levies including interest on the levies as provided by this
38 section and chapter 84.68 RCW.

39 The county treasurer of each county must make all refunds
40 determined to be authorized by this section, and by the first Monday

1 in February of each year, report to the county legislative authority
2 a list of all refunds made under this section during the previous
3 year. The list is to include the name of the person receiving the
4 refund, the amount of the refund, and the reason for the refund.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is retroactive and applies to
6 taxes levied for collection in 2018.

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