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## HOUSE BILL 2479

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State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1994 Regular Session

By Representatives G. Fisher, Foreman, Karahalios and Springer; by request of Department of Revenue

Read first time 01/17/94. Referred to Committee on Revenue.

- AN ACT Relating to general technical corrections of excise and 1 2 property tax statutes; amending RCW 36.21.011, 82.04.270, 82.04.4282, 3 82.08.026, 82.12.022, 82.12.023, 82.16.050, 84.12.200, 84.12.340, 4 84.16.100, 84.36.020, 84.36.264, 84.36.800, 84.36.810, 84.40.030, 84.40.080, 5 84.40.085, 84.40.170, 84.40.175, 84.40.230, 84.48.022, 84.48.026, 84.48.032, 84.48.036, 6 84.48.028, 84.48.050, 84.48.110, 7 84.48.120, 84.48.130, 84.48.140, 84.52.010, 84.52.018, 84.52.030, 84.60.050, 84.68.020, and 84.68.090; adding a new section to chapter 8 9 and repealing RCW 84.24.010, 84.24.020, 84.24.030, 84.24.040, 84.24.050, 84.24.060, and 84.24.070. 10
- 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 12 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.21.011 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 11 s 1 are each amended 13 to read as follows:
- Any assessor who deems it necessary <u>in order</u> to ((<del>enable him to</del>))
- 15 complete the listing and the valuation of the property of ((his)) the
- 16 county within the time prescribed by law, (1) may appoint one or more
- 17 well qualified persons to act as ((his)) assistants or deputies who
- 18 shall not engage in the private practice of appraising within the
- 19 county in which he or she is employed without the written permission of

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the ((county)) assessor filed with the ((county)) auditor; and each such assistant or deputy so appointed shall, under the direction of the assessor, after taking the required oath, perform all the duties enjoined upon, vested in or imposed upon assessors, and (2) may contract with any persons, firms or corporations, who are expert appraisers, to assist in the valuation of property.

7 To assist each assessor in obtaining adequate and well qualified 8 assistants or deputies, the state department of personnel, after 9 consultation with the Washington state association of county assessors, 10 the Washington state association of counties, and the department of shall establish by July 1, 1967, and shall thereafter 11 maintain, a classification and salary plan for those employees of an 12 13 assessor who act as appraisers. The plan shall recommend the salary range and employment qualifications for each position encompassed by 14 15 it, and shall, to the fullest extent practicable, conform to the 16 classification plan, salary schedules and employment qualifications for 17 state employees performing similar appraisal functions.

If an assessor intends to put such plan into effect in ((his)) the 18 19 county, ((he)) the assessor shall inform the department of revenue and 20 the ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority of this intent in writing. The department of revenue and the ((board)) 21 22 county legislative authority may thereupon each designate 23 representative, and such representative or representatives as may be 24 designated by the department of revenue or the ((board)) county 25 legislative authority, or both, shall form with the assessor a 26 committee. The committee so formed may, by unanimous vote only, determine the required number of certified appraiser positions and 27 their salaries necessary to enable the ((county)) assessor to carry out 28 29 the requirements relating to revaluation of property in chapter 84.41 30 The determination of the committee shall be certified to the 31 ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority. committee ((provided for herein)) may be formed only once in a period 32 33 of four calendar years.

After such determination, the assessor may provide, in each of ((his)) the four next succeeding annual budget estimates, for as many positions as are established in such determination. Each ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority to which such a budget estimate is submitted shall allow sufficient funds for such positions. An employee may be appointed to a position covered by the

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- 1 plan only if the employee meets the employment qualifications 2 established by the plan.
- 3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.04.270 and 1993 sp.s. c 25 s 105 are each amended 4 to read as follows:
- (1) Upon every person except persons taxable under subsections (1) or (8) of RCW 82.04.260 engaging within this state in the business of making sales at wholesale; as to such persons the amount of tax with respect to such business shall be equal to the gross proceeds of sales of such business multiplied by the rate of 0.484 percent.
- The tax imposed by this section is levied and shall be 10 collected from every person engaged in the business of distributing in 11 12 this state articles of tangible personal property, owned by them from 13 their own warehouse or other central location in this state to two or 14 more of their own retail stores or outlets, where no change of title or 15 ownership occurs, the intent hereof being to impose a tax equal to the 16 wholesaler's tax upon persons performing functions essentially comparable to those of a wholesaler, but not actually making sales((÷ 17 18 PROVIDED, That)). The tax designated in this section may not be 19 assessed twice to the same person for the same article. The amount of the tax as to such persons shall be computed by multiplying 0.484 20 percent of the value of the article so distributed as of the time of 21 such distribution((: PROVIDED, That persons engaged in the activities 22 23 described in this subsection shall not be liable for the tax imposed if 24 by proper invoice it can be shown that they have purchased such 25 property from a wholesaler who has paid a business and occupation tax to the state upon the same articles. This proviso shall not apply to 26 purchases from manufacturers as defined in RCW 82.04.110)). 27 department of revenue shall prescribe uniform and equitable rules for 28 29 the purpose of ascertaining such value, which value shall correspond as 30 nearly as possible to the gross proceeds from sales at wholesale in this state of similar articles of like quality and character, and in 31 similar quantities by other taxpayers((: PROVIDED FURTHER, That)). 32 33 Delivery trucks or vans will not under the purposes of this section be considered to be retail stores or outlets. 34
- 35 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.04.4282 and 1989 c 392 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

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In computing tax there may be deducted from the measure of tax 1 2 amounts derived from  $((\frac{1}{1}))$  bona fide (1) initiation fees, (2) dues, 3 (3) contributions, (4) donations, (5) tuition fees, (6) charges made by 4 a nonprofit trade or professional organization for attending or occupying space at a trade show, convention, or educational seminar 5 sponsored by the nonprofit trade or professional organization, which 6 7 trade show, convention, or educational seminar is not open to the 8 general public, (7) charges made for operation of privately operated 9 kindergartens, and (8) endowment funds. This ((paragraph)) section 10 shall not be construed to exempt any person, association, or society from tax liability upon selling tangible personal property or upon 11 providing facilities or services for which a special charge is made to 12 13 members or others. If dues are in exchange for any significant amount of goods or services rendered by the recipient thereof to members 14 15 without any additional charge to the member, or if the dues are 16 graduated upon the amount of goods or services rendered, the value of such goods or services shall not be considered as a deduction 17 ((hereunder)) under this section. 18

- 19 **Sec. 4.** RCW 82.08.026 and 1989 c 384 s 4 are each amended to read 20 as follows:
- 21 The tax levied by RCW 82.08.020 shall not apply to sales of natural 22 or manufactured gas that is taxable under RCW 82.12.022.
- 23 **Sec. 5.** RCW 82.12.022 and 1989 c 384 s 3 are each amended to read 24 as follows:
- 25 (1) There is hereby levied and there shall be collected from every 26 person in this state a use tax for the privilege of using natural gas 27 or manufactured gas within this state as a consumer.
- 28 (2) The tax shall be levied and collected in an amount equal to the 29 value of the article used by the taxpayer multiplied by the rate in effect for the public utility tax on gas distribution businesses under 30 The "value of the article used" does not 31 RCW 82.16.020( $(\frac{(1)(b)}{(b)})$ ). 32 include any amounts that are paid for the hire or use of a gas distribution business as defined in RCW 82.16.010(7) in transporting 33 the gas subject to tax under this subsection if those amounts are 34 35 subject to tax under that chapter.

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- 1 (3) The tax levied in this section shall not apply to the use of 2 natural or manufactured gas delivered to the consumer by other means 3 than through a pipeline.
- 4 (4) The tax levied in this section shall not apply to the use of natural or manufactured gas if the person who sold the gas to the consumer has paid a tax under RCW 82.16.020(((1)(b))) with respect to the gas for which exemption is sought under this subsection.
- 8 (((4))) (5) There shall be a credit against the tax levied under 9 this section in an amount equal to any tax paid by:
- 10 (a) The person who sold the gas to the consumer when that tax is a 11 gross receipts tax similar to that imposed pursuant to RCW 12 82.16.020(((1)(b))) by another state with respect to the gas for which 13 a credit is sought under this subsection; or
- (b) The person consuming the gas upon which a use tax similar to the tax imposed by this section was paid to another state with respect to the gas for which a credit is sought under this subsection.
- 17  $((\frac{5}{1}))$  (6) The use tax hereby imposed shall be paid by the 18 consumer to the department.
- ((<del>(6)</del>)) (7) There is imposed a reporting requirement on the person who delivered the gas to the consumer to make a quarterly report to the department. Such report shall contain the volume of gas delivered, name of the consumer to whom delivered, and such other information as the department shall require by rule.
- $((\frac{7}{}))$  (8) The department may adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW for the administration and enforcement of sections 1 through 6, chapter 384, Laws of 1989.
- 27 **Sec. 6.** RCW 82.12.023 and 1989 c 384 s 5 are each amended to read 28 as follows:
- The tax levied by RCW 82.12.020 shall not apply in respect to the use of natural or manufactured gas that is taxable under RCW 82.12.022.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 82.12 RCW to read as follows:
- The tax imposed by RCW 82.12.020 shall not apply in respect to the use of newspapers.
- 35 **Sec. 8.** RCW 82.16.050 and 1989 c 302 s 103 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

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1 In computing tax there may be deducted from the gross income the 2 following items:

- 3 (1) Amounts derived by municipally owned or operated public service 4 businesses, directly from taxes levied for the support or maintenance 5 thereof: PROVIDED, That this section shall not be construed to exempt 6 service charges which are spread on the property tax rolls and 7 collected as taxes;
- 8 (2) Amounts derived from the sale of commodities to persons in the 9 same public service business as the seller, for resale as such within 10 this state. This deduction is allowed only with respect to water 11 distribution, light and power, gas distribution or other public service 12 businesses which furnish water, electrical energy, gas or any other 13 commodity in the performance of public service businesses;
- (3) Amounts actually paid by a taxpayer to another person taxable under this chapter as the latter's portion of the consideration due for services furnished jointly by both, if the total amount has been credited to and appears in the gross income reported for tax by the former;
- 19 (4) The amount of cash discount actually taken by the purchaser or 20 customer;
  - (5) The amount of credit losses actually sustained by taxpayers whose regular books of accounts are kept upon an accrual basis;
- 23 (6) Amounts derived from business which the state is prohibited 24 from taxing under the Constitution of this state or the Constitution or 25 laws of the United States;
- 26 (7) Amounts derived from the distribution of water through an 27 irrigation system, for irrigation purposes;
- 28 (8) Amounts derived from the transportation of commodities from points of origin in this state to final destination outside this state, 29 30 or from points of origin outside this state to final destination in 31 this state, with respect to which the carrier grants to the shipper the privilege of stopping the shipment in transit at some point in this 32 state for the purpose of storing, manufacturing, milling, or other 33 processing, and thereafter forwards the same commodity, or its 34 35 equivalent, in the same or converted form, under a through freight rate from point of origin to final destination; and amounts derived from the 36 37 transportation of commodities from points of origin in the state to an export elevator, wharf, dock or ship side on tidewater or navigable 38 39 tributaries thereto from which such commodities are forwarded, without

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- intervening transportation, by vessel, in their original form, to interstate or foreign destinations: PROVIDED, That no deduction will be allowed when the point of origin and the point of delivery to such an export elevator, wharf, dock, or ship side are located within the corporate limits of the same city or town;
- (9) Amounts derived from the production, sale, or transfer of 6 7 electrical energy for resale or consumption outside the state ((if the 8 production or generation of such energy is subject to tax under the 9 manufacturing classification of chapter 82.04 RCW: PROVIDED, That the 10 exemption set forth in RCW 82.04.310 shall not be applicable to the generation or production of the electrical energy so produced, sold, or 11 transferred: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That no credit has been claimed as 12 13 an offset to taxes imposed under RCW 82.04.240));
- (10) Amounts derived from the distribution of water by a nonprofit water association and used for capital improvements by that nonprofit water association;
- 17 (11) Amounts paid by a sewerage collection business taxable under 18 RCW 82.16.020(1)(a) to a person taxable under chapter 82.04 RCW for the 19 treatment or disposal of sewage.
- 20 **Sec. 9.** RCW 84.12.200 and 1987 c 153 s 1 are each amended to read 21 as follows:
- For the purposes of this chapter and unless otherwise required by the context:
- 24 (1) "Department" without other designation means the department of 25 revenue of the state of Washington.
- (2) "Railroad company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning or operating a railroad, street railway, suburban railroad or interurban railroad in this state, whether its line of railroad be maintained at the surface, or above or below the surface of the earth, or by whatever power its vehicles are transported; or owning any station, depot, terminal or bridge for railroad purposes, as owner, lessee or otherwise.
- 33 (3) "Airplane company" ((shall)) means and includes any person 34 owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, 35 used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the 36 conveyance and transportation of persons and/or property by aircraft, 37 and engaged in the business of transporting persons and/or property for 38 compensation, as owner, lessee or otherwise.

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- 1 (4) "Electric light and power company" ((shall)) means and includes 2 any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal 3 property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate 4 the generation, transmission or distribution of electricity in this 5 state, and engaged in the business of furnishing, transmitting, 6 distributing or generating electrical energy for light, heat or power 7 for compensation as owner, lessee or otherwise.
  - (5) "Telegraph company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing any telegraph or cable line in this state, with appliances for the transmission of messages, and engaged in the business of furnishing telegraph service for compensation, as owner, lessee or otherwise.
  - (6) "Telephone company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the transmission of communication by telephone in this state-owned or controlled exchanges and/or switchboards, and engaged in the business of furnishing telephonic communication for compensation as owner, lessee or otherwise.
- (7) "Gas company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the manufacture, transportation, or distribution of natural or manufactured gas in this state, and engaged for compensation in the business of furnishing gas for light, heat, power or other use, as owner, lessee or otherwise.
  - (8) "Pipe line company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the conveyance or transportation of oils, natural or manufactured gas and/or other substances, except water, by pipe line in this state, and engaged in such business for compensation, as owner, lessee or otherwise.
- (9) (("Water company" shall mean and include any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the supply, storage, distribution, diversion or carriage of water in this state, and engaged in the business of furnishing water for power, irrigation, manufacturing, domestic or other uses for compensation, as owner, lessee or otherwise.

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(10) "Heating company" shall mean and include any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the generation and/or distribution of steam or hot water for heat, power, manufacturing or other purposes in this state, and engaged principally in business of furnishing, distributing, supplying or generating steam or hot water for heat, power, manufacturing or other purposes for compensation, as owner, lessee or otherwise.

(11) "Toll bridge company" shall mean and include any person owning, controlling, operating, or managing real or personal property, used for or in connection with or to facilitate the conveyance or transportation of persons and/or property over a bridge or bridge approach over any stream, river or body of water within, or partly within this state, and operated as a toll bridge for compensation, as owner, lessee, or otherwise.

(12)) "Steamboat company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the conveyance and transportation of persons and/or property by vessel or ferry, upon the waters within this state, including the rivers and lakes and Puget Sound, between fixed termini or over a regular route, and engaged in the business of transporting persons and/or property for compensation as owner, lessee or otherwise.

(((13))) (10) "Logging railroad company" ((shall)) means and includes any person owning, controlling, operating or managing real or personal property, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the conveyance and transportation of forest products by rail in this state, and engaged in the business of transporting forest products either as private carrier or carrier for hire.

((\(\frac{(14)}{14}\))) (11) "Person" ((\(\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}\)) means and includes any individual, firm, copartnership, joint venture, association, corporation, trust, or any other group acting as a unit, whether mutual, cooperative or otherwise, and/or trustees or receivers appointed by any court.

((\(\frac{(15)}{)}\)) (12) "Company" ((\(\frac{\text{shall}}{)}\)) means and includes any railroad company, motor vehicle transportation company, airplane company, electric light and power company, telegraph company, telephone company, gas company, pipe line company, ((\(\text{water company, heating company, toll bridge company, ))} steamboat company, or logging railroad company; and

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the term "companies" ((shall)) means and includes all of such 1 2 companies.

3 ((<del>(16)</del>)) <u>(13)</u> "Operating property" ((<del>shall</del>)) means and includes all 4 property, real and personal, owned by any company, or held by it as 5 occupant, lessee or otherwise, including all franchises and lands, buildings, rights-of-way, water powers, motor vehicles, wagons, horses, 6 7 aircraft, aerodromes, hangars, office furniture, water mains, gas 8 mains, pipe lines, pumping stations, tanks, tank farms, holders, 9 reservoirs, telephone lines, telegraph lines, transmission 10 distribution lines, dams, generating plants, poles, wires, cables, conduits, switch boards, devices, appliances, instruments, equipment, 11 machinery, vessels, ferries, landing slips, docks, roadbeds, tracks, 12 13 terminals, rolling stock equipment, appurtenances and all other property of a like or different kind, situate within the state of 14 15 Washington, used by the company in the conduct of its operations; and, in case of personal property used partly within and partly without the 16 17 state, it ((shall)) means and includes a proportion of such personal 18 property to be determined as in this chapter provided.

19  $((\frac{17}{17}))$  (14) "Nonoperating property" ((shall)) means all physical 20 property owned by any company, other than that used during the preceding calendar year in the conduct of its operations. It ((shall)) 21 includes all lands and/or buildings wholly used by any person other 22 23 than the owning company. In cases where lands and/or buildings are 24 used partially by the owning company in the conduct of its operations 25 and partially by any other person not assessable under this chapter under lease, sublease, or other form of tenancy, the operating and 26 27 nonoperating property of the company whose property is assessed hereunder shall be determined by the department of revenue in such 28 manner as will, in its judgment, secure the separate valuation of such 29 30 operating and nonoperating property upon a fair and equitable basis. 31 The amount of operating revenue received from tenants or occupants of 32 property of the owning company shall not be considered material in determining the classification of such property. 33

34 Sec. 10. RCW 84.12.340 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 169 are each amended to read as follows: 35

((At any time between the tenth and twenty-fifth days of July, inclusive, following the making of the assessment, every company shall be entitled on its own motion, presented to the department of revenue 38

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before the tenth day of July, to a hearing and to present evidence 1 before the department of revenue,)) Following the making of an 2 3 assessment, every company may present a motion for a hearing on the 4 assessment with the department of revenue within the first ten working days of July. The hearing on this motion shall be held within ten 5 working days following the hearing request period. During this 6 7 hearing, the company may present evidence relating to the value of its 8 operating property and to the value of other taxable property in the 9 counties in which its operating property is situate. Upon request in 10 writing for such hearing, the department shall appoint a time and place therefor, within the period aforesaid, the hearing to be 11 conducted in such manner as the department shall direct. 12 13 provided for in this section may be held at such times and in such places throughout the state as the department may deem proper or 14 15 necessary, may be adjourned from time to time and from place to place 16 and may be conducted by the department of revenue or by such member or 17 members thereof as may be duly delegated to act for it. taken ((before less than the entire department of revenue)) at this 18 19 hearing shall be ((reported and a transcript thereof filed with the 20 department of revenue prior to its decision)) recorded.

21 **Sec. 11.** RCW 84.16.100 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 182 are each 22 amended to read as follows:

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Every company assessed under the provisions of this chapter shall be entitled on its own motion to a hearing and to present evidence before the department of revenue, ((at any time between the twentieth day of July and the fifteenth day of August)) within the ten working days following the hearing request period, relating to the value of the operating property of such company and to the value of the other taxable property in the counties in which the operating property of such company is situate. Upon request in writing for such hearing, which must be presented to the department of revenue ((on or before the twentieth day)) within the first ten working days of July following the making of the assessment, the department shall appoint a time and place therefor, within the respective periods aforesaid, the hearing to be conducted in such manner as the department shall direct. Hearings provided for in this section may be held at such times and in such places throughout the state as the department may deem proper or

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- 1 necessary and may be adjourned from time to time and from place to 2 place.
- 3 **Sec. 12.** RCW 84.36.020 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 291 s 12 are each 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 The following <u>real and personal</u> property shall be exempt from 6 taxation:
- All lands, ((and)) buildings, and personal property required for 8 necessary administration and maintenance, used, or to the extent used, 9 exclusively for public burying grounds or cemeteries without 10 discrimination as to race, color, national origin or ancestry;
- All churches, personal property, and the ground, not exceeding five 11 12 acres in area, upon which a church of any nonprofit recognized religious denomination is or shall be built, together with a parsonage, 13 14 convent, and buildings and improvements required for the maintenance 15 and safeguarding of such property. The area exempted shall in any case 16 include all ground covered by the church, parsonage, convent, and 17 buildings and improvements required for the maintenance and 18 safeguarding of such property and the structures and ground necessary 19 for street access, parking, light, and ventilation, but the area of unoccupied ground exempted in such cases, in connection with church, 20 21 parsonage, convent, and buildings and improvements required for the 22 maintenance and safequarding of such property, shall not exceed the 23 equivalent of one hundred twenty by one hundred twenty feet except 24 where additional unoccupied land may be required to conform with state 25 or local codes, zoning, or licensing requirements. The parsonage and convent need not be on land contiguous to the church property. To be 26 exempt the property must be wholly used for church purposes: PROVIDED, 27 That the loan or rental of property otherwise exempt under this 28 29 paragraph to a nonprofit organization, association, or corporation, or school for use for an eleemosynary activity shall not nullify the 30 exemption provided in this paragraph if the rental income, if any, is 31 32 reasonable and is devoted solely to the operation and maintenance of the property. 33
- 34 **Sec. 13.** RCW 84.36.264 and 1973 c 112 s 3 are each amended to read 35 as follows:
- Owners of property desiring tax exempt status pursuant to the provisions of RCW 84.36.260((, as now or hereafter amended,)) shall

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- 1 make an application ((therefor with the assessor of the county wherein
- 2 such property is located)) for the exemption with the department.
- 3 ((Prior to approval the assessor shall forward a copy of the initial
- 4 application to the department of revenue and a copy of the option)) <u>If</u>
- 5 such property qualifies pursuant to RCW 84.36.260(2), ((as now or
- 6 hereafter amended)) a copy of the option shall also be submitted to the
- 7 <u>department</u>. Such option shall clearly state the purchase price
- 8 pursuant to the option or the appraisal value as determined by the
- 9 department of revenue.
- 10 **Sec. 14.** RCW 84.36.800 and 1993 c 79 s 2 are each amended to read
- 11 as follows:
- 12 As used in RCW 84.36.020, 84.36.030, 84.36.550, 84.36.037,
- 13 84.36.040, 84.36.041, 84.36.050, 84.36.060, and 84.36.800 through
- 14 84.36.865:
- 15 (1) "Church purposes" means the use of real and personal property
- 16 owned by a nonprofit religious organization for religious worship or
- 17 related administrative, educational, eleemosynary, and social
- 18 activities. This definition is to be broadly construed;
- 19 (2) "Convent" means a house or set of buildings occupied by a
- 20 community of ((<del>clergymen</del>)) <u>clergy</u> or nuns devoted to religious life
- 21 under a superior;
- 22 (3) "Hospital" means any portion of a hospital building, or other
- 23 buildings in connection therewith, used as a residence for persons
- 24 engaged or employed in the operation of a hospital, or operated as a
- 25 portion of the hospital unit;
- 26 (4) "Nonprofit" means an organization, association or corporation
- 27 no part of the income of which is paid directly or indirectly to its
- 28 members, stockholders, officers, directors or trustees except in the
- 29 form of services rendered by the organization, association, or
- 30 corporation in accordance with its purposes and bylaws and the salary
- 31 or compensation paid to officers of such organization, association or
- 32 corporation is for actual services rendered and compares to the salary
- 33 or compensation of like positions within the public services of the
- 34 state;
- 35 (5) "Parsonage" means a residence occupied by a ((clergyman who
- 36 is)) member of the clergy who has been designated for a particular
- 37 congregation and who holds regular services therefor.

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- 1 **Sec. 15.** RCW 84.36.810 and 1993 c 79 s 4 are each amended to read 2 as follows:
- 3 (1) Upon cessation of a use under which an exemption has been 4 granted pursuant to RCW 84.36.030, 84.36.550, 84.36.037, 84.36.040,
- 5 84.36.041, 84.36.043, 84.36.050, and 84.36.060, the county treasurer
- 6 shall collect all taxes which would have been paid had the property not
- 7 been exempt during the three years preceding, or the life of such
- 8 exemption, if such be less, together with the interest at the same rate
- 9 and computed in the same way as that upon delinquent property taxes((÷
- 10 PROVIDED, That)). Where the property has been granted an exemption for
- 11 more than ten years, taxes and interest shall not be assessed under
- 12 this section.
- 13 (2) Subsection (1) of this section applies only when ownership of
- 14 the property is transferred or when fifty-one percent or more of the
- 15 area of the property has lost its exempt status. The additional tax
- 16 under subsection (1) of this section shall not be imposed if the
- 17 cessation of use resulted solely from:
- 18 (a) Transfer to a nonprofit organization, association, or
- 19 corporation for a use which also qualifies and is granted exemption
- 20 under the provisions of chapter 84.36 RCW;
- 21 (b) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent domain,
- 22 or sale or transfer to an entity having the power of eminent domain in
- 23 anticipation of the exercise of such power;
- 24 (c) Official action by an agency of the state of Washington or by
- 25 the county or city within which the property is located which disallows
- 26 the present use of such property;
- 27 (d) A natural disaster such as a flood, windstorm, earthquake, or
- 28 other such calamity rather than by virtue of the act of the
- 29 organization, association, or corporation changing the use of such
- 30 property;
- 31 (e) Relocation of the activity and use of another location or site
- 32 except for undeveloped properties of camp facilities exempted under RCW
- 33 84.36.030;
- 34 (f) Cancellation of a lease on property that had been exempt under
- 35 RCW 84.36.040, 84.36.041, 84.36.043, or 84.36.060;
- 36 (g) A change in the exempt portion of a home for the aging under
- 37 RCW 84.36.041( $(\frac{(2)}{(2)})$ )(3), as long as some portion of the home remains
- 38 exempt;

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1 (h) The conversion of a full exemption of a home for the aging to 2 a partial exemption or taxable status or the conversion of a partial 2 exemption to taxable status under RCW  $84.36.041((\frac{7}{1}))$  (8).

4 **Sec. 16.** RCW 84.40.030 and 1993 c 436 s 1 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

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All property shall be valued at one hundred percent of its true and fair value in money and assessed on the same basis unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

9 Taxable leasehold estates shall be valued at such price as they would bring at a fair, voluntary sale for cash without any deductions 10 be 11 for any indebtedness owed including rentals 12 ((Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section or of any other statute, when the value of any taxable leasehold estate created prior 13 14 to January 1, 1971 is being determined for assessment years prior to the assessment year 1973, there shall be deducted from what would 15 otherwise be the value thereof the present worth of the rentals and 16 other consideration which may be required of the lessee by the lessor 17 18 for the unexpired term thereof: PROVIDED, That the foregoing 19 provisions of this sentence shall not apply to any extension or renewal, made after December 31, 1970 of the term of any such estate, 20 or to any such estate after the date, if any, provided for in the 21 22 agreement for rental renegotiation.))

The true and fair value of real property for taxation purposes (including property upon which there is a coal or other mine, or stone or other quarry) shall be based upon the following criteria:

(1) Any sales of the property being appraised or similar properties with respect to sales made within the past five years. The appraisal shall be consistent with the comprehensive land use plan, development regulations under chapter 36.70A RCW, zoning, and governmental policies or practices in effect at the time of appraisal that affect the use of property, as well as physical and environmental The appraisal shall also take into account(( - )) = (a) in the use of sales by real estate contract as similar sales, the extent, if any, to which the stated selling price has been increased by reason of the down payment, interest rate, or other financing terms; and (b) the extent to which the sale of a similar property actually represents the general effective market demand for property of such type, in the geographical area in which such property is located. Sales involving

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- deed releases or similar seller-developer financing arrangements shall not be used as sales of similar property.
- 3 addition to sales In as defined in subsection (1), 4 consideration may be given to cost, cost less depreciation, reconstruction cost less depreciation, or capitalization of income that 5 would be derived from prudent use of the property. In the case of 6 7 property of a complex nature, or being used under terms of a franchise 8 from a public agency, or operating as a public utility, or property not having a record of sale within five years and not having a significant 9 10 number of sales of similar property in the general area, the provisions of this subsection (2) shall be the dominant factors in valuation. 11 When provisions of this subsection (2) are relied upon for establishing 12 13 values the property owner shall be advised upon request of the factors used in arriving at such value. 14
- 15 (3) In valuing any tract or parcel of real property, the value of 16 the land, exclusive of structures thereon shall be determined; also the 17 value of structures thereon, but the valuation shall not exceed the 18 value of the total property as it exists. In valuing agricultural 19 land, growing crops shall be excluded.
- 20 **Sec. 17.** RCW 84.40.080 and 1973 2nd ex.s. c 8 s 1 are each amended 21 to read as follows:

22 The assessor, upon ((his)) the assessor's own motion, or upon the 23 application of any taxpayer, shall enter in the detail and assessment 24 list of the current year any property shown to have been omitted from 25 the assessment list of any preceding year, at the valuation of that year, or if not then valued, at such valuation as the assessor shall 26 determine from the preceding year, and such valuation shall be stated 27 in a separate line from the valuation of the current year. 28 29 improvements have not been valued and assessed as a part of the real 30 estate upon which the same may be located, as evidenced by the assessment rolls, they may be separately valued and assessed as omitted 31 property under this section(( $\div$  PROVIDED, That)). No such assessment 32 33 shall be made in any case where a bona fide purchaser, encumbrancer, or 34 contract buyer has acquired any interest in said property prior to the time such improvements are assessed. When such an omitted assessment 35 36 is made, the taxes levied thereon may be paid within one year of the due date of the taxes for the year in which the assessment is made 37 without penalty or interest((: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That)). In the 38

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- assessment of personal property, the assessor shall assess the omitted
- value not reported by the taxpayer as evidenced by an inspection of 2
- either the property or the books and records of said taxpayer by the 3
- 4 assessor.
- 5 Sec. 18. RCW 84.40.085 and 1973 2nd ex.s. c 8 s 2 are each amended 6 to read as follows:
- No omitted property or omitted value assessment shall be made for 7
- any period more than three years preceding the year in which the 8
- 9 omission is discovered. The assessor, upon discovery of such omission,
- shall forward a copy of the amended personal property affidavit along 10
- with a letter of particulars informing the taxpayer of the findings and 11
- 12 of ((his)) the taxpayer's right of appeal to the county board of
- equalization. Upon request of either the taxpayer or the assessor, the 13
- 14 county board of equalization may be reconvened to act on ((subject
- 15 omits)) the omitted property or omitted value assessments.
- Sec. 19. RCW 84.40.170 and 1961 c 15 s 84.40.170 are each amended 16 17 to read as follows:
- 18 In all cases of irregular subdivided tracts or lots of land other
- than any regular government subdivision the ((county)) assessor shall 19
- 20 outline a plat of such tracts or lots and notify the owner or owners
- thereof with a request to have the same surveyed by the county 21
- 22 engineer, and cause the same to be platted into numbered (or lettered)
- 23 lots or tracts((: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That where)). If any county has
- 24 in its possession the correct field notes of any such tract or lot of
- 25 land a new survey shall not be necessary((, but)) and such tracts may
- be mapped from such field notes. In case the owner of such tracts or 26
- 27
- lots neglects or refuses to have the same surveyed or platted, the
- 28 ((county)) assessor shall notify the ((board of county commissioners))
- 29 county legislative authority in and for the county, who may order and
- direct the county engineer to make the proper survey and plat of the 30
- 31 tracts and lots. A plat shall be made on which said tracts or lots of
- 32 land shall be accurately described by lines, and numbered (or
- 33 lettered), which numbers (or letters) together with number of the
- section, township and range shall be distinctly marked on such plat, 34
- and the field notes of all such tracts or lots of land shall describe 35
- each tract or lot according to the survey, and such tract or lot shall 36
- 37 be numbered (or lettered) to correspond with its number (or letter) on

p. 17 HB 2479 the map. The plat shall be given a designated name by the surveyor thereof. When the survey, plat, field notes and name of plat, shall have been approved by the board of county commissioners, the plat and field notes shall be filed and recorded in the office of the county auditor, and the description of any tract or lot of land described in said plats by number (or letter), section, township and range, shall be

8 **Sec. 20.** RCW 84.40.175 and 1986 c 285 s 3 are each amended to read 9 as follows:

a sufficient and legal description for revenue and all other purposes.

10 At the time of making the assessment of real property, the assessor shall enter each description of property exempt under the provisions of 11 12 ((RCW 84.36.005 through 84.36.060)) chapter 84.36 RCW, and value and list the same in the manner and subject to the same rule as ((he)) the 13 14 assessor is required to assess all other property, designating in each 15 case to whom such property belongs((, and for what purpose used, to entitle it to exemption, and he shall require from every person 16 claiming such exemption proof of the right to such exemption: 17 18 PROVIDED, That)). However, with respect to publicly owned property 19 exempt from taxation under provisions of RCW 84.36.010, the assessor shall value only such property as is leased to or occupied by a private 20 21 person under an agreement allowing such person to occupy or use such 22 property for a private purpose when a request for such valuation is 23 received from the department of revenue or the lessee of such property 24 for use in determining the taxable rent as provided for in chapter 25 82.29A RCW: PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section shall not prohibit any assessor from valuing any public property leased to or occupied by a 26 private person for private purposes. 27

28 **Sec. 21.** RCW 84.40.230 and 1961 c 15 s 84.40.230 are each amended 29 to read as follows:

When any real property is sold on contract by the United States of 30 31 America, the state, or any county or municipality, and ((such)) the 32 contract expresses or implies that the vendee is entitled to the 33 possession, use, benefits and profits thereof and therefrom so long as ((he)) the vendee complies with the terms of ((such)) the contract, it 34 35 shall be deemed that the vendor retains title merely as security for the fulfillment of the contract, and ((such)) the property shall be 36 37 assessed and taxed in the same manner as other similar property in

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- 1 private ownership is taxed, and the tax roll shall contain, opposite
- 2 the description of the property so assessed the following notation:
- 3 "Subject to title remaining in the vendor" or other notation of similar
- 4 significance. No foreclosure for delinquent taxes nor any deed issued
- 5 pursuant thereto shall extinguish or otherwise affect the title of the
- 6 vendor. In any case under former law where the contract and not the
- 7 property was taxed no deed of the property described in such contract
- 8 shall ever be executed and delivered by the state or any county or
- 9 municipality until all taxes assessed against such contract and local
- 10 assessments assessed against the land described thereon are fully paid.
- 11 **Sec. 22.** RCW 84.48.022 and 1970 ex.s. c 55 s 5 are each amended to
- 12 read as follows:
- 13 All meetings of the board of equalization shall be held at the
- 14 county courthouse, or other suitable place within the county, and the
- 15 ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority shall
- 16 make provision for a suitable meeting place.
- 17 **Sec. 23.** RCW 84.48.026 and 1970 ex.s. c 55 s 6 are each amended to
- 18 read as follows:
- 19 The terms of each appointed member of the board shall be for three
- 20 years or until their successors are appointed((: PROVIDED, HOWEVER,)).
- 21 Each appointed member may be removed by a majority vote of the ((county
- 22 commissioners or other)) county legislative ((body)) authority.
- 23 **Sec. 24.** RCW 84.48.028 and 1970 ex.s. c 55 s 7 are each amended to
- 24 read as follows:
- 25 The board may appoint a clerk of the board and any assistants the
- 26 board might need, all to serve at the pleasure of the members of the
- 27 board, and the clerk or ((his)) assistant((-)) shall attend all
- 28 sessions thereof, and shall keep the record. Neither the assessor nor
- 29 any of ((his)) the assessor's staff may serve as clerk.
- 30 **Sec. 25.** RCW 84.48.032 and 1970 ex.s. c 55 s 8 are each amended to
- 31 read as follows:
- 32 The board may hire one or more appraisers accredited by the
- 33 <u>department of revenue or certified ((as such))</u> by the Washington state
- 34 department of ((personnel)) licensing, society of real estate
- 35 appraisers, American institute of real estate appraisers, or

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- 1 international association of assessing officers, and not otherwise
- 2 employed by the county, and other necessary personnel for the purpose
- 3 of aiding the board and carrying out its functions and duties. In
- 4 addition, the boards of the various counties may make reciprocal
- 5 arrangements for the exchange of the appraisers with other counties.
- 6 Such appraisers need not be residents of the county.
- 7 **Sec. 26.** RCW 84.48.036 and 1970 ex.s. c 55 s 9 are each amended to 8 read as follows:
- 9 The county ((commissioners)) legislative authority may provide an adequate annual budget and funds for operation and needs of the board 10 of equalization, including, but not limited to the costs and expenses 11 12 of the board, such as the meeting place, the necessary equipment and facilities, materials, the salaries of the clerk of the board and 13 14 ((his)) the clerk's assistants, the expenses of the members of the 15 board during the sessions, travel, in-service training, and payment of salaries of all such employees hired by the board, to facilitate its 16
- 18 **Sec. 27.** RCW 84.48.050 and 1961 c 15 s 84.48.050 are each amended 19 to read as follows:
- 20 The county assessor shall, on or before the fifteenth day of January in each year, make out and transmit to the state auditor, in 21 22 such form as may be prescribed, a complete abstract of the tax rolls of 23 the county, showing the number of acres of land assessed, the value of 24 such land, including the structures thereon; the value of town and city 25 lots, including structures; the total value of all taxable personal property in the county; the aggregate amount of all taxable property in 26 27 the county; the total amount as equalized and the total amount of taxes 28 levied in the county for state, county, city and other taxing district 29 purposes, for that year. Should the assessor of any county fail to transmit to the ((state board of equalization)) department of revenue 30 31 the abstract provided for in RCW 84.48.010 ((by the time the state 32 board of equalization convenes)), and if, by reason of such failure to 33 transmit such abstract, any county shall fail to collect and pay to the state its due proportion of the state tax for any year, the ((state 34 35 board of equalization)) department of revenue shall((, at its next annual session,)) ascertain what amount of state tax said county has 36 37 failed to collect, and certify the same to the state auditor, who shall

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work.

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- 1 charge the amount to the proper county and notify the auditor of said
- 2 county of the amount of said charge; said sum shall be due and payable
- 3 immediately by warrant in favor of the state on the current expense
- 4 fund of said county.
- 5 **Sec. 28.** RCW 84.48.110 and 1987 c 168 s 1 are each amended to read 6 as follows:
- 7 ((Within three days after the record of the proceedings of the state board of equalization is certified by the director of the 8 department)) After certifying the record of the proceedings of the 9 department in accordance with RCW 84.48.080, the department shall 10 transmit to each county assessor a copy of the record of the 11 proceedings of the ((board)) department, specifying the amount to be 12 levied and collected ((on said assessment books)) for state purposes 13 14 for such year, and in addition thereto it shall certify to each county 15 assessor the amount due to each state fund and unpaid from such county 16 for the fifth preceding year, and such delinquent state taxes shall be added to the amount levied for the current year. The department shall 17 18 close the account of each county for the fifth preceding year and 19 charge the amount of such delinquency to the tax levy of the current These delinquent taxes shall not be subject to chapter 84.55 20 year. All taxes collected on and after the first day of July last 21 preceding such certificate, on account of delinquent state taxes for 22 23 the fifth preceding year shall belong to the county and by the county 24 treasurer be credited to the current expense fund of the county in 25 which collected.
- 26 **Sec. 29.** RCW 84.48.120 and 1987 c 168 s 2 are each amended to read 27 as follows:
- 28 It shall be the duty of the ((county)) assessor of each county, 29 when ((he)) the assessor shall have received from the state department of revenue the assessed valuation of the property of railroad and other 30 companies assessed by the department of revenue and apportioned to the 31 32 county, and placed the same on the tax rolls, and received the report 33 of the department of revenue of the amount of taxes levied for state purposes, to compute the required percent on the assessed value of 34 35 property in the county, and such state taxes shall be extended on the tax rolls ((in the proper column: PROVIDED, That)). The rates so 36 37 computed shall not be such as to raise a surplus of more than five

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- 1 percent over the total amount required by the ((state board of equalization: PROVIDED FURTHER, That)) department. Any surplus raised
- 3 shall be remitted to the state in accordance with RCW 84.56.280.

4 **Sec. 30.** RCW 84.48.130 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 207 are each 5 amended to read as follows:

It shall be the duty of the ((county)) assessor of each county, 6 7 when ((he)) the assessor shall have received from the state department of revenue the certificate of the assessed valuation of the property of 8 9 railroad and/or other companies assessed by the department of revenue 10 and apportioned to the county, and shall have distributed the value so certified ((to him)), to the several taxing districts in ((his)) the 11 12 county entitled to a proportionate value thereof, and placed the same upon the tax rolls of the county, to certify to the ((board of county 13 14 commissioners)) county legislative authority and to the officers 15 authorized by law to estimate expenditures and/or levy taxes for any taxing district coextensive with the county, the total assessed value 16 of property in the county as shown by the completed tax rolls, and to 17 18 certify to the officers authorized by law to estimate expenditures 19 and/or levy taxes for each taxing district in the county not 20 coextensive with the county, the total assessed value of the property 21 in such taxing district.

22 **Sec. 31.** RCW 84.48.140 and 1971 ex.s. c 288 s 11 are each amended 23 to read as follows:

The county ((commissioners or governing board)) legislative authority of any county may designate one or more persons to act as a property tax advisor to any person liable for payment of property taxes in the county. A person designated as a property tax advisor shall not be an employee of the assessor's office or have been associated in any way with the determination of any valuation of property for taxation purposes that may be the subject of an appeal. A person designated as a property tax advisor may be compensated on a fee basis or as an employee by the county from any funds available to the county for use in property evaluation including funds available from the state for use in the property tax revaluation program.

The property tax advisor shall perform such duties as may be set forth by resolution of the county ((commissioners or other governing))
legislative authority.

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If any ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority elects to designate a property tax advisor, ((they)) it shall publicize the services available.

**Sec. 32.** RCW 84.52.010 and 1993 c 337 s 4 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

Except as is permitted under RCW 84.55.050, all taxes shall be levied or voted in specific amounts.

The rate percent of all taxes for state and county purposes, and purposes of taxing districts coextensive with the county, shall be determined, calculated and fixed by the county assessors of the respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the assessed valuation of the property of the county, as shown by the completed tax rolls of the county, and the rate percent of all taxes levied for purposes of taxing districts within any county shall be determined, calculated and fixed by the county assessors of the respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the assessed valuation of the property of the taxing districts respectively.

When a county assessor finds that the aggregate rate of tax levy on any property, that is subject to the limitations set forth in RCW 84.52.043 or 84.52.050, as now or hereafter amended, exceeds the limitations provided in either of these sections, the assessor shall recompute and establish a consolidated levy in the following manner:

(1) The full certified rates of tax levy for state, county, county road district, and city or town purposes shall be extended on the tax rolls in amounts not exceeding the limitations established by law((\(\tau\) subject to subsection (2)(e) of this section)); however any state levy shall take precedence over all other levies and shall not be reduced for any purpose other than that required by RCW 84.55.010; however, if as a result of the levies imposed under RCW 84.52.069, 84.34.230, and 84.52.105, the combined rates of regular property tax levies exceed one percent of the true and fair value of any property, then the levies imposed under RCW 84.34.230 and 84.52.105, and any portion of the levy imposed under RCW 84.52.069 that is in excess of thirty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated until the combined rates of regular property tax levies no longer exceed one percent of the true and fair value of any property; and

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- 1 (2) The certified rates of tax levy subject to these limitations by 2 all junior taxing districts imposing taxes on such property shall be 3 reduced or eliminated as follows to bring the consolidated levy of 4 taxes on such property within the provisions of these limitations:
- 5 (a) First, the certified property tax levy rates of those junior 6 taxing districts authorized under RCW 36.68.525, 36.69.145, and 7 67.38.130 shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;
- 8 (b) Second, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these 9 limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of flood control 10 zone districts shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;
- 11 (c) Third, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these
  12 limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of all other junior
  13 taxing districts, other than fire protection districts, library
  14 districts, the first fifty cent per thousand dollars of assessed
  15 valuation levies for metropolitan park districts, and the first fifty
  16 cent per thousand dollars of assessed valuation levies for public
  17 hospital districts, shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;
- (d) Fourth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized to fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160 shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated; and
- (e) Fifth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these 22 23 limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized for fire 24 protection districts under RCW 52.16.130, library districts, 25 metropolitan park districts under their first fifty cent per thousand 26 dollars of assessed valuation levy, and public hospital districts under 27 their first fifty cent per thousand dollars of assessed valuation levy, shall be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated. 28
- 29 **Sec. 33.** RCW 84.52.018 and 1989 c 378 s 15 are each amended to 30 read as follows:

Whenever any property value or claim for exemption or cancellation 31 of a property assessment is appealed to the state board of tax appeals 32 or court of competent jurisdiction and the dollar difference between 33 34 the total value asserted by the taxpayer and the total value asserted by the opposing party exceeds one-fourth of one percent of the total 35 36 assessed value of property in the county, the assessor shall use only 37 that portion of the total value which is not in controversy for purposes of computing the levy rates and extending the tax on the tax 38

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1 roll in accordance with this chapter, unless the state board of tax 2 appeals has issued its determination at the time of extending the tax.

When the state board of tax appeals or court of competent jurisdiction makes its final determination, the proper amount of tax shall be extended and collected for each taxing district if this has not already been done. The amount of tax collected and extended shall include interest at the rate of nine percent per year on the amount of the board's final determination minus the amount not in controversy. The interest shall accrue from the date the taxes on the amount not in controversy ((was)) were first due and payable. Any amount extended in excess of that permitted by chapter 84.55 RCW shall be held in abeyance

**Sec. 34.** RCW 84.52.030 and 1961 c 15 s 84.52.030 are each amended 14 to read as follows:

and used to reduce the levy rates of the next succeeding levy.

 For the purpose of raising revenue for state, county and other taxing district purposes, the ((board of county commissioners)) county legislative authority of each county at its October session, and all other officials or boards authorized by law to levy taxes for taxing district purposes, shall levy taxes on all the taxable property in the county or district, as the case may be, sufficient for such purposes, and within the limitations permitted by law.

- **Sec. 35.** RCW 84.60.050 and 1971 ex.s. c 260 s 2 are each amended 23 to read as follows:
  - (1) When real property is acquired by purchase or condemnation by the state of Washington, any county or municipal corporation or is placed under a recorded agreement for immediate possession and use or an order of immediate possession and use pursuant to RCW 8.04.090, such property shall continue to be subject to the tax lien for the years prior to the year in which the property is so acquired or placed under such agreement or order, of any tax levied by the state, county, municipal corporation or other tax levying public body, except as is otherwise provided in RCW 84.60.070.
  - (2) The lien for taxes applicable to the real property being acquired or placed under immediate possession and use for the year in which such real property is so acquired or placed under immediate possession and use shall be for only the pro rata portion of taxes allocable to that portion of the year prior to the date of execution of

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the instrument vesting title, date of recording such agreement of 1 immediate possession and use, date of such order of immediate 2 possession and use, or date of judgment. No taxes levied or tax lien 3 4 on such property allocable to a period subsequent to the dates 5 identified in this subsection shall be valid and any such taxes levied shall be canceled as provided in RCW ((84.56.400)) 84.48.065. 6 7 event the owner has paid taxes allocable to that portion of the year 8 subsequent to the dates identified in this subsection he or she shall 9 be entitled to a pro rata refund of the amount paid on the property so 10 acquired or placed under a recorded agreement or an order of immediate possession and use. If the dates identified in this subsection precede 11 February 15th of the year in which such taxes become payable, no lien 12 13 for such taxes shall be valid and any such taxes levied but not payable shall be canceled as provided in RCW ((84.56.400)) 84.48.065. 14

15 **Sec. 36.** RCW 84.68.020 and 1961 c 15 s 84.68.020 are each amended to read as follows:

17 In all cases of the levy of taxes for public revenue which are 18 deemed unlawful or excessive by the person, firm or corporation whose 19 property is taxed, or from whom such tax is demanded or enforced, such person, firm or corporation may pay such tax or any part thereof deemed 20 21 unlawful, under written protest setting forth all of the grounds upon 22 which such tax is claimed to be unlawful or excessive; and thereupon 23 the person, firm or corporation so paying, or ((his or its)) their 24 legal representatives or assigns, may bring an action in the superior 25 court or in any federal court of competent jurisdiction against the state, county or municipality by whose officers the same was collected, 26 27 to recover such tax, or any portion thereof, so paid under protest: PROVIDED, That RCW 84.68.010 through 84.68.070 shall not be deemed to 28 29 enlarge the grounds upon which taxes may now be recovered: AND 30 PROVIDED FURTHER, That no claim need be presented to the state or county or municipality, or any of their respective officers, for the 31 32 return of such protested tax as a condition precedent to the 33 institution of such action.

- 34 **Sec. 37.** RCW 84.68.090 and 1961 c 15 s 84.68.090 are each amended 35 to read as follows:
- In all actions for the recovery of lands or other property sold for taxes, the complainant must state and set forth specially in ((his))

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- 1 the complaint the tax that is justly due, with penalties, interest and
- 2 costs, that the taxes for that and previous years have been paid; and
- 3 when the action is against the person or corporation in possession
- 4 thereof that all taxes, penalties, interest and costs paid by the
- 5 purchaser at tax-sale, ((his)) the purchaser's assignees or grantees
- 6 have been fully paid or tendered, and payment refused.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 38. The following acts or parts of acts are 8 each repealed:
- 9 (1) RCW 84.24.010 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 184 & 1961 c 15 s 10 84.24.010;
- 11 (2) RCW 84.24.020 and 1961 c 15 s 84.24.020;
- 12 (3) RCW 84.24.030 and 1985 c 469 s 64, 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 185,
- 13 & 1961 c 15 s 84.24.030;
- 14 (4) RCW 84.24.040 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 186 & 1961 c 15 s
- 15 84.24.040;
- 16 (5) RCW 84.24.050 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 187 & 1961 c 15 s
- 17 84.24.050;
- 18 (6) RCW 84.24.060 and 1961 c 15 s 84.24.060; and
- 19 (7) RCW 84.24.070 and 1989 c 378 s 27 & 1961 c 15 s 84.24.070.

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