
SENATE BILL 5864

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senator Fraser

Read first time 02/18/93. Referred to Committee on Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to parks; amending RCW 36.69.140 and 36.69.145; and
2 creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The intent of the legislature by enacting
5 sections 2 and 3 of chapter . . . , Laws of 1993 (this act) is:

6 (1) To allow park and recreation districts to place more than one
7 excess levy on the same ballot, allowing districts to give voters the
8 opportunity to vote on separate issues, such as for operating and
9 capital funds, at the same election, thereby reducing election costs;
10 and

11 (2) To increase the amount a park and recreation district may
12 collect through a six-year property tax levy from a maximum of fifteen
13 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value to a maximum of seventy-
14 five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. This would allow
15 for a more stable funding source for park and recreation districts at
16 a realistic tax rate and reduce the need for holding excess levy
17 elections on an annual or biannual basis. In addition, it would level
18 out the collection of taxes over each of six years rather than the
19 practice now of collecting in one year to fund two years.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.69.140 and 1984 c 186 s 30 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 A park and recreation district shall have the power to levy ~~((an))~~
4 excess ~~((levy))~~ levies upon the property included within the district,
5 in the manner prescribed by Article VII, section 2, of the Constitution
6 and by RCW 84.52.052~~((. Such excess levy may be either))~~ for operating
7 funds ~~((or for))~~, capital outlay funds, ~~((or for a))~~ and cumulative
8 reserve funds. A park and recreation district may issue general
9 obligation bonds for capital purposes only, not to exceed an amount,
10 together with any outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation
11 indebtedness equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of the
12 taxable property within such district, as the term "value of the
13 taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A park and recreation
14 district may additionally issue general obligation bonds equal to one
15 and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the
16 district, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW
17 39.36.015, when such bonds are approved by three-fifths of the voters
18 of the district at a general or special election called for that
19 purpose and may provide for the retirement thereof by levies in excess
20 of dollar rate limitations in accordance with the provisions of RCW
21 84.52.056. When authorized by the voters of the district, the district
22 may issue interest bearing warrants payable out of and to the extent of
23 excess levies authorized in the year in which the excess levy was
24 approved. These elections shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050.
25 Such bonds and warrants shall be issued and sold in accordance with
26 chapter 39.46 RCW.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 36.69.145 and 1984 c 131 s 6 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

29 (1) A park and recreation district may impose regular property tax
30 levies in an amount equal to ~~((fifteen))~~ seventy-five cents or less per
31 thousand dollars of assessed value of property in the district in each
32 year for ~~((five))~~ six consecutive years when specifically authorized so
33 to do by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters thereof
34 approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted at a special
35 election or at the regular election of the district, at which election
36 the number of persons voting "yes" on the proposition shall constitute
37 three-fifths of a number equal to forty per centum of the total votes
38 cast in such district at the last preceding general election when the

1 number of electors voting on the proposition does not exceed forty per
2 centum of the total votes cast in such taxing district in the last
3 preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths
4 of the electors thereof voting on the proposition if the number of
5 electors voting on the proposition exceeds forty per centum of the
6 total votes cast in such taxing district in the last preceding general
7 election. A proposition authorizing the tax levies shall not be
8 submitted by a park and recreation district more than twice in any
9 twelve-month period. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW
10 29.30.111. In the event a park and recreation district is levying
11 property taxes, which in combination with property taxes levied by
12 other taxing districts subject to the one percent limitation provided
13 for in Article 7, section 2, of our state Constitution result in taxes
14 in excess of the limitation provided for in RCW 84.52.043, the park and
15 recreation district property tax levy shall be reduced or eliminated
16 before the property tax levies of other taxing districts are reduced.

17 (2) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 shall not apply to the first
18 levy imposed under this section following the approval of the levies by
19 the voters under subsection (1) of this section.

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