
SENATE BILL 5916

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen and Erwin

Read first time 02/24/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to tax levies for emergency medical care and
2 services; and amending RCW 84.52.069.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.52.069 and 1991 c 175 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) As used in this section, "taxing district" means a county,
7 emergency medical service district, city or town, public hospital
8 district, or fire protection district.

9 (2) A taxing district may impose additional regular property tax
10 levies in an amount equal to fifty cents or less per thousand dollars
11 of the assessed value of property in the taxing district in each year
12 for six consecutive years when specifically authorized so to do by a
13 majority of at least three-fifths of the registered voters thereof
14 approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted at a general
15 or special election, at which election the number of persons voting
16 "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number
17 equal to forty per centum of the total votes cast in such taxing
18 district at the last preceding general election when the number of
19 registered voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty per

1 centum of the total votes cast in such taxing district in the last
2 preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths
3 of the registered voters thereof voting on the proposition when the
4 number of registered voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty per
5 centum of the total votes cast in such taxing district in the last
6 preceding general election. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW
7 29.30.111.

8 (3) Any tax imposed under this section shall be used only for the
9 provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services,
10 including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and
11 related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the
12 provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services.

13 (4)(a) If a county levies a tax under this section, no taxing
14 district within the county may levy a tax under this section, except as
15 provided in (b) of this subsection. No other taxing district may levy
16 a tax under this section if another taxing district has levied a tax
17 under this section within its boundaries: PROVIDED, That if a county
18 levies less than fifty cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value
19 of property, then any other taxing district may levy a tax under this
20 section equal to the difference between the rate of the levy by the
21 county and fifty cents: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if a taxing district
22 within a county levies this tax, and the voters of the county
23 subsequently approve a levying of this tax, then the amount of the
24 taxing district levy within the county shall be reduced, when the
25 combined levies exceed fifty cents. Whenever a tax is levied county-
26 wide, the service shall, insofar as is feasible, be provided throughout
27 the county: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no county-wide levy proposal may be
28 placed on the ballot without the approval of the legislative authority
29 of each city exceeding fifty thousand population within the county:
30 AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section and RCW 36.32.480 shall not
31 prohibit any city or town from levying an annual excess levy to fund
32 emergency medical services: AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, That if a county
33 proposes to impose tax levies under this section, no other ballot
34 proposition authorizing tax levies under this section by another taxing
35 district in the county may be placed before the voters at the same
36 election at which the county ballot proposition is placed, except as
37 provided in (b) of this subsection: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That any
38 taxing district emergency medical service levy that is authorized
39 subsequent to a county emergency medical service levy, shall expire

1 concurrently with the county emergency medical service levy, except for
2 a levy authorized by a city located in two counties as provided in (b)
3 of this subsection.

4 (b) Where a city is located in two counties, and only one of those
5 counties has elected to proceed with a county-wide emergency medical
6 services levy under this section, the city may elect to have the
7 county-wide levy apply throughout the city, or in the alternative, the
8 city may exclude itself from the county-wide levy and levy a city-wide
9 tax. Where the city elects to be included in the county-wide levy to
10 be imposed throughout the city, both counties shall collect moneys
11 within the area of the city located within each county's borders, but
12 the county without a county-wide levy shall submit the moneys collected
13 to the proper official of the other county. Where under the elections
14 provided in this subsection (4)(b), the voters of a bicounty city elect
15 to authorize a city-wide levy, either county shall be precluded from
16 imposing a county-wide levy in the area of the city, and the
17 restrictions set forth in (a) of this subsection shall not apply.

18 (5) The tax levy authorized in this section is in addition to the
19 tax levy authorized in RCW 84.52.043.

20 (6) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 shall not apply to the first
21 levy imposed pursuant to this section following the approval of such
22 levy by the voters pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

23 (7) No taxing district may levy under this section more than
24 twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of property if
25 reductions under RCW 84.52.010(2) are made for the year within the
26 boundaries of the taxing district.

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