
SENATE BILL 6203

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Snyder, Haugen and Spanel

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

1 AN ACT Relating to limits on rural partial-county library
2 districts; and amending RCW 27.12.010 and 27.12.470.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 27.12.010 and 1993 c 284 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different
7 meaning:

8 (1) "Governmental unit" means any county, city, town, rural county
9 library district, intercounty rural library district, rural partial-
10 county library district, or island library district;

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

16 (3) "Library" means a free public library supported in whole or in
17 part with money derived from taxation;

1 (4) "Regional library" means a free public library maintained by
2 two or more counties or other governmental units as provided in RCW
3 27.12.080;

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

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

15 (7) "Island library district" means a municipal corporation
16 organized to provide library service for all areas outside of
17 incorporated cities and towns on a single island only, and not all of
18 the area of the county, in counties composed entirely of islands and
19 having a population of less than twenty-five thousand at the time the
20 island library district was created: PROVIDED, That any city or town
21 with a population of one hundred thousand or less at the time of
22 annexation may be included therein as provided in RCW 27.12.360 through
23 27.12.390; and

24 (8) "Rural partial-county library district" means a municipal
25 corporation organized to provide library service for a portion of the
26 unincorporated area of a county (~~that has an assessed valuation of at~~
27 ~~least fifty million dollars)). Any city or town located in the same~~
28 county as a rural partial-county library district may annex to the
29 district if the city or town has a population of one hundred thousand
30 or less at the time of annexation.

31 **Sec. 2.** RCW 27.12.470 and 1993 c 284 s 1 are each amended to read
32 as follows:

33 A rural partial-county library district may be created in a portion
34 of the unincorporated area of a county as provided in this section if
35 a rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, or
36 island library district has not been created in the county (~~and the~~
37 ~~area proposed to be included in a rural partial-county library district~~
38 ~~has an assessed valuation of at least fifty million dollars)).~~

1 The procedure to create a rural partial-county library district is
2 initiated by the filing of petitions with the county auditor proposing
3 the creation of the district that have been signed by at least ten
4 percent of the registered voters residing in the area proposed to be
5 included in the rural partial-county library district. The county
6 auditor shall review the petitions and certify the sufficiency or
7 insufficiency of the signatures to the county legislative authority.

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

19 The rural partial-county library district shall be created if the
20 ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the district is approved
21 by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition.
22 Immediately after creation of the rural partial-county library district
23 the county legislative authority shall appoint a board of library
24 trustees for the district as provided under RCW 27.12.190.

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

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

37 If, at the time of creation, a rural partial-county library
38 district has an assessed valuation of less than fifty million dollars,
39 it may provide library services only by contracting for the services

1 through an interlocal agreement with an adjacent library district. If
2 the assessed valuation of the rural partial-county library district
3 subsequently reaches fifty million dollars as a result of annexation or
4 appreciation, the fifty million dollar limitation shall not apply.

5 If a ballot proposition is approved creating a rural county library
6 district in the county, every rural partial-county library district in
7 that county shall be dissolved and its assets and liabilities
8 transferred to the rural county library district. Where a rural
9 partial-county library district has annexed a city or town, the voters
10 of the city or town shall be allowed to vote on the proposed creation
11 of a rural county library district and, if created, the rural county
12 library district shall include each city and town that was annexed to
13 the rural partial-county library district.

14 Nothing in this section authorizes the consolidation of a rural
15 partial-county library district with any rural county library district;
16 island library district; city, county, or regional library; intercounty
17 library district; or other rural partial-county library district,
18 unless, in addition to any other requirements imposed by statute, the
19 boards of all library districts involved approve the consolidation.

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