

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2187

Chapter 14, Laws of 1994

53rd Legislature
1994 Regular Session

FIRE DISTRICT MERGERS--PROCEDURE FOR REDUCTION IN
NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/9/94

Passed by the House February 8, 1994
Yeas 94 Nays 0

BRIAN EBERSOLE
**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate February 26, 1994
Yeas 46 Nays 0

JOEL PRITCHARD
President of the Senate

Approved March 21, 1994

MIKE LOWRY
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Marilyn Showalter, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2187** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

MARILYN SHOWALTER
Chief Clerk

FILED

March 21, 1994 - 11:16 a.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 2187

Passed Legislature - 1994 Regular Session

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representative Dunshee

Prefiled 01/07/94. Read first time 01/10/94. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to fire protection districts mergers; and amending
2 RCW 52.06.085.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 52.06.085 and 1992 c 74 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Whenever two or more fire protection districts merge, the board
7 of fire commissioners of the merged fire protection district shall
8 consist of all of the ~~((original))~~ fire commissioners of the districts
9 that are merging, including a person who is elected as a fire
10 commissioner of one of the merging districts at that same election that
11 the ballot proposition was approved authorizing the merger, who shall
12 retain the same terms of office they would possess as if the merger had
13 not been approved. The number of members on the board of the merged
14 district shall be reduced to either three or five members as provided
15 in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, depending on whether the
16 district has chosen to eventually have either a three-member or a five-
17 member board under RCW 52.14.020.

18 (2) The number of members on the board of the merged district shall
19 be reduced by one whenever a fire commissioner resigns from office or

1 a vacancy otherwise occurs on the board, until the number of remaining
2 members is reduced to the number of members that is chosen for the
3 board eventually to have. The reduction of membership on the board
4 shall not be considered to be a vacancy that is to be filled until the
5 number of remaining members is less than the number of members on the
6 board that is chosen for the board eventually to have.

7 (3) At the next three district general elections (~~for fire~~
8 ~~commissioners~~) after the merger is approved, the number of fire
9 commissioners for the merged district (~~shall be reduced~~) that are
10 elected shall be as follows, notwithstanding the number of fire
11 commissioners whose terms expire:

12 (a) In the first election after the merger, only one position shall
13 be filled, whether the new fire protection district be a three-member
14 district or a five-member district (~~pursuant to RCW 52.14.020~~).

15 (b) In each of the two subsequent elections, one position shall be
16 filled if the new fire protection district is a three-member district
17 and two positions shall be filled if the new fire protection district
18 is a five-member district (~~pursuant to RCW 52.14.020~~).

19 Thereafter, the fire commissioners shall be elected in the same
20 manner as prescribed for such fire protection districts of the state.

21 (~~(2)~~) (4) A ballot proposition to create commissioner districts
22 may be submitted to the voters of the fire protection districts
23 proposed to be merged at the same election the ballot proposition is
24 submitted authorizing the merging of the fire protection districts.
25 The procedure to create commissioner districts shall conform with RCW
26 52.14.013, except that: (a) Resolutions proposing the creation of
27 commissioner districts must be adopted by unanimous vote of the boards
28 of fire commissioners of each of the fire protection districts that are
29 proposed to be merged; and (b) commissioner districts will be
30 authorized only if the ballot propositions to authorize the merger and
31 to create commissioner districts are both approved. A ballot
32 proposition authorizing the creation of commissioner districts is
33 approved if it is approved by a simple majority vote of the combined
34 voters of all the fire protection districts proposed to be merged. The
35 commissioner districts shall not be drawn until the number of
36 commissioners in the fire protection district has been reduced under
37 subsections (1) through (3) of this section to either three or five
38 commissioners. After this reduction of fire commissioners has occurred

- 1 the commissioner districts shall be drawn and used for the election of
- 2 the successor fire commissioners.

Passed the House February 8, 1994.

Passed the Senate February 26, 1994.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1994.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 21, 1994.