

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 6748**

Chapter 156, Laws of 2000

56th Legislature  
2000 Regular Session

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEBT LIMITS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 3/27/00

Passed by the Senate February 11, 2000  
YEAS 45 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 1, 2000  
YEAS 86 NAYS 12

CLYDE BALLARD  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

FRANK CHOPP  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved March 27, 2000

GARY LOCKE  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6748** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK  
**Secretary**

FILED

March 27, 2000 - 2:55 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 6748**

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Passed Legislature - 2000 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Sellar, Patterson, McCaslin and T. Sheldon

Read first time 01/26/2000. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1       AN ACT Relating to increasing a city or town debt limit for  
2 purposes of financing capital facilities associated with economic  
3 development; amending RCW 39.36.020; and declaring an emergency.

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

5       **Sec. 1.** RCW 39.36.020 and 1994 c 277 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7       (1) Except as otherwise expressly provided by law or in subsections  
8 (2), (3) and (4) of this section, no taxing district shall for any  
9 purpose become indebted in any manner to an amount exceeding  
10 three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable property in  
11 such taxing district without the assent of three-fifths of the voters  
12 therein voting at an election to be held for that purpose, nor in cases  
13 requiring such assent shall the total indebtedness incurred at any time  
14 exceed one and one-fourth percent on the value of the taxable property  
15 therein.

16       (2)(a)(i) Public hospital districts are limited to an indebtedness  
17 amount not exceeding three-fourths of one percent of the value of the  
18 taxable property in such public hospital districts without the assent

1 of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election held for  
2 that purpose.

3 (ii) Counties, cities, and towns are limited to an indebtedness  
4 amount not exceeding one and one-half percent of the value of the  
5 taxable property in such counties, cities, or towns without the assent  
6 of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election held for  
7 that purpose.

8 (b) In cases requiring such assent counties, cities, towns, and  
9 public hospital districts are limited to a total indebtedness of two  
10 and one-half percent of the value of the taxable property therein.  
11 However, any county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and  
12 obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56  
13 RCW may become indebted to a larger amount for its authorized  
14 metropolitan functions, as provided under chapter 35.58 RCW, but not  
15 exceeding an additional three-fourths of one percent of the value of  
16 the taxable property in the county without the assent of three-fifths  
17 of the voters therein voting at an election held for that purpose, and  
18 in cases requiring such assent not exceeding an additional two and one-  
19 half percent of the value of the taxable property in the county.

20 (3) School districts are limited to an indebtedness amount not  
21 exceeding three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable  
22 property in such district without the assent of three-fifths of the  
23 voters therein voting at an election held for that purpose. In cases  
24 requiring such assent school districts are limited to a total  
25 indebtedness of two and one-half percent of the value of the taxable  
26 property therein.

27 (4) No part of the indebtedness allowed in this chapter shall be  
28 incurred for any purpose other than strictly county, city, town, school  
29 district, township, port district, metropolitan park district, or other  
30 municipal purposes: PROVIDED, That a city or town, with such assent,  
31 may become indebted to a larger amount, but not exceeding two and one-  
32 half percent additional, determined as herein provided, for supplying  
33 such city or town with water, artificial light, and sewers, when the  
34 works for supplying such water, light, and sewers shall be owned and  
35 controlled by the city or town; and a city or town, with such assent,  
36 may become indebted to a larger amount, but not exceeding two and one-  
37 half percent additional for acquiring or developing open space ((and)),  
38 park facilities, and capital facilities associated with economic  
39 development: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any school district may become

1 indebted to a larger amount but not exceeding two and one-half percent  
2 additional for capital outlays.

3 (5) Such indebtedness may be authorized in any total amount in one  
4 or more propositions and the amount of such authorization may exceed  
5 the amount of indebtedness which could then lawfully be incurred. Such  
6 indebtedness may be incurred in one or more series of bonds from time  
7 to time out of such authorization but at no time shall the total  
8 general indebtedness of any taxing district exceed the above  
9 limitation.

10 The term "value of the taxable property" as used in this section  
11 shall have the meaning set forth in RCW 39.36.015.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
14 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
15 immediately.

Passed the Senate February 11, 2000.

Passed the House March 1, 2000.

Approved by the Governor March 27, 2000.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 27, 2000.