Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Local Government Committee

HB 1813

Brief Description: Increasing the term of nonvoter approved rural library district general obligation bonds.

Sponsors: Representatives Williams, DeBolt, Hunt and Moeller.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Increases the maximum term of nonvoter approved general obligation bonds issued by a rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, or island library district from six to twenty years.

Hearing Date: 2/14/05

Staff: Ethan Moreno (786-7386).

Background:

Statute provides for the establishment, management, and operation of different categories of library districts, including rural county library districts, intercounty rural library districts, and island library districts. In general, the organization and service areas of these districts is as follows:

- <u>A rural county library district</u> is a public corporation organized to provide library services to all the area of a county not included within the area of incorporated cities and towns;
- <u>An intercounty rural library district</u> is a municipal corporation organized to provide library service for all areas outside of incorporated cities and towns within two or more counties; and
- An island library district is a municipal corporation organized to provide library service for all areas outside of incorporated cities and towns on a single island only and not all of the area of the county. Island library districts may only be established counties composed entirely of islands with fewer than 25,000 residents at the time the library district was created.

Notwithstanding other provisions, cities or towns meeting specified population criteria may be included within a rural county, intercounty rural, or island library district.

Property taxes may be levied by county legislative authorities for the establishment and maintenance of library services, subject to statutory requirements. The legislative body for rural county library districts, intercounty rural library districts, and island library districts is composed

of appointed district trustees and is authorized to determine the amount of taxes to be levied for these districts.

Rural county library districts, intercounty rural library districts, or island library districts may contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds, subject to statutory requirements and limitations. The maximum term of nonvoter approved general obligation bonds must not exceed six years.

Summary of Bill:

The maximum term of nonvoter approved general obligation bonds issued by a rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, or island library district is increased from six to twenty years.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.