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HOUSE BILL 2721

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Ericks, Haler, Roberts, Morris, Takko, B. Sullivan, Hasegawa, Moeller, Simpson, Sells, Green, Ormsby, Springer and Priest

Read first time 01/12/2006. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to levy lid lifts for fire protection districts;  
2 and amending RCW 84.55.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.55.050 and 2003 1st sp.s. c 24 s 4 are each amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Subject to any otherwise applicable statutory dollar rate  
7 limitations, regular property taxes may be levied by or for a taxing  
8 district in an amount exceeding the limitations provided for in this  
9 chapter if such levy is authorized by a proposition approved by a  
10 majority of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition  
11 at a general election held within the district or at a special election  
12 within the taxing district called by the district for the purpose of  
13 submitting such proposition to the voters. Any election held pursuant  
14 to this section shall be held not more than twelve months prior to the  
15 date on which the proposed levy is to be initially made(~~(, except as~~  
16 ~~provided in subsection (3)(b) of this section)~~). The ballot title of  
17 the proposition shall state the dollar rate proposed and shall clearly  
18 state (~~(any)~~) the conditions, if any, which are applicable under  
19 subsection (3) of this section.

1 (2) After a levy authorized pursuant to this section is made, the  
2 dollar amount of such levy shall be used for the purpose of computing  
3 the limitations for subsequent levies provided for in this chapter,  
4 except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section.

5 (3) A proposition placed before the voters under this section may:

6 (a) Limit the period for which the increased levy is to be made;

7 (b) Subject to statutory dollar limitations in RCW 84.52.043,  
8 authorize annual increases in levies for any county, city, or town for  
9 multiple consecutive years, up to six consecutive years, during which  
10 period each year's authorized maximum legal levy shall be used as the  
11 base upon which an increased levy limit for the succeeding year is  
12 computed, but the ballot proposition must state the dollar rate  
13 proposed only for the first year of the consecutive years and must  
14 state the limit factor, or a specified index to be used for determining  
15 a limit factor, such as the consumer price index, which need not be the  
16 same for all years, by which the regular tax levy for the district may  
17 be increased in each of the subsequent consecutive years. Elections  
18 for this purpose must be held at a primary or general election. The  
19 title of each ballot measure must state the specific purposes for which  
20 the proposed levy increase shall be used, and funds raised under this  
21 levy shall not supplant existing funds used for these purposes;

22 (c) Limit the purpose for which the increased levy is to be made,  
23 but if the limited purpose includes making redemption payments on  
24 bonds, the period for which the increased levies are made shall not  
25 exceed nine years;

26 (d) Set the levy at a rate less than the maximum rate allowed for  
27 the district;

28 (e) Provide that the maximum allowable dollar amount of the final  
29 annual levy of the period specified in the measure shall be used to  
30 compute the limitations provided for in this chapter on levy increases  
31 occurring after the expiration of the period; ((~~or~~))

32 (f) Set a maximum regular levy dollar rate to be levied every year  
33 by a fire protection district for up to six consecutive years;

34 (g) Include any combination of the conditions in this subsection.

35 (4) Except as otherwise provided in an approved ballot measure  
36 under this section, after the expiration of a limited period or the  
37 satisfaction of a limited purpose, whichever comes first, subsequent  
38 levies shall be computed as if:

1           (a) The limited proposition under subsection (3) of this section  
2 had not been approved; and

3           (b) The taxing district had made levies at the maximum rates which  
4 would otherwise have been allowed under this chapter during the years  
5 levies were made under the limited proposition.

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