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HOUSE BILL 2451

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunshee, Chase, White, Warnick, and Ormsby; by request of State Treasurer

Prefiled 12/09/09. Read first time 01/11/10. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

AN ACT Relating to modifying the local option capital asset lending program to authorize state use of certain voter approved excess tax levies to pay financing contracts and to clarify program participants; amending RCW 39.94.020, 39.94.030, and 84.52.056; and creating a new section.

- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 39.94.020 and 1998 c 291 s 3 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
- 9 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 10 this section apply throughout this chapter.
- 11 (1) "Credit enhancement" includes insurance, letters of credit, 12 lines of credit, or other similar agreements which enhance the security 13 for the payment of the state's or an other agency's obligations under 14 financing contracts.
- 15 (2) "Financing contract" means any contract entered into by the 16 state for itself or on behalf of an other agency which provides for the 17 use and purchase of real or personal property by the state and provides 18 for payment by the state over a term of more than one year, and which 19 provides that title to the subject property may secure performance of

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- the state or transfer to the state or an other agency by the end of the term, upon exercise of an option, for a nominal amount or for a price determined without reference to fair market value. Financing contracts ((shall)) include, but are not ((be)) limited to, conditional sales contracts, financing leases, lease purchase contracts, or refinancing contracts, but ((shall)) does not include operating or true leases. For purposes of this chapter, the term "financing contract" ((shall)) does not include any nonrecourse financing contract or other obligation payable only from money or other property received from private sources and not payable from any public money or property. The term "financing contract" ((shall)) includes a "master financing contract."
 - (3) "Master financing contract" means a financing contract which provides for the use and purchase of property by the state, and which may include more than one financing contract and appropriation.
 - (4) "Other agency" means any commission established under Title 15 RCW, a library or regional library, an educational service district, the superintendent of public instruction, the school directors' association, a health district, or any county, city, town, school district, or other municipal corporation or quasi-municipal corporation ((described as such by statute)).
 - (5) "State" means the state, agency, department, or instrumentality of the state, the state board for community and technical colleges, and any state institution of higher education.
- 24 (6) "State finance committee" means the state finance committee 25 under chapter 43.33 RCW.
- 26 (7) "Trustee" means a bank or trust company, within or without the 27 state, authorized by law to exercise trust powers.
- **Sec. 2.** RCW 39.94.030 and 2009 c 500 s 7 are each amended to read 29 as follows:
 - (1) The state may enter into financing contracts for itself or on behalf of an other agency for the use and acquisition for public purposes of real and personal property. Payments under financing contracts of the state shall be made by the state from currently appropriated funds or funds not constituting "general state revenues" as defined in Article VIII, section 1 of the state Constitution. Except as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section, payments under financing contracts of the state on behalf of any other agency shall be

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made solely from the sources identified in the financing contract, which may not obligate general state revenues as defined in Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution. The treasurer of an other agency shall remit payments under financing contracts to the office of the state treasurer or to the state treasurer's designee. In the event of any deficiency of payments by an other agency under a financing contract, the treasurer of the other agency shall transfer any legally available funds of the other agency in satisfaction of the other agency's obligations under the financing contract if such funds have been obligated by the other agency under the financing contract and, if such deficiency is not thereby cured, the office of the state treasurer is directed to withdraw from that agency's share of state revenues for distribution or other money an amount sufficient to fulfill the terms and conditions of the financing contract. The term of any financing contract shall not exceed thirty years or the remaining useful life of the property, whichever is shorter. Financing contracts may include other terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties.

- (2) The state for itself or on behalf of an other agency may enter into contracts for credit enhancement, which ((shall)) limits the recourse of the provider of credit enhancement solely to the security provided under the financing contract secured by the credit enhancement.
- (3) The state or an other agency may grant a security interest in real or personal property acquired under financing contracts. The security interest may be perfected as provided by the uniform commercial code secured transactions, or otherwise as provided by law for perfecting liens on real estate. Other terms and conditions may be included as agreed upon by the parties. An other agency that is authorized by applicable law to enter into a financing contract may make payments due under such a contract from the proceeds of annual tax levies approved by the voters under RCW 84.52.056, among other sources.
- (4)(a) Financing contracts and contracts for credit enhancement entered into under the limitations set forth in this chapter ((shall)) do not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any law limiting debt of the state. It is the intent of the legislature that such contracts also ((shall)) do not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under Article VIII, section 1 of the state Constitution. Certificates of participation in payments to be made

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under financing contracts also ((shall)) do not constitute a debt or the contracting of an indebtedness under any law limiting debt of the state if payment is conditioned upon payment by the state under the financing contract with respect to which the same relates. It is the intent of the legislature that such certificates also ((shall)) do not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under Article VIII, section 1 of the state Constitution if payment of the certificates is conditioned upon payment by the state under the financing contract with respect to which those certificates relate.

(b) An other agency authorized by law to issue bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness or to enter into conditional sales contracts or lease obligations, may participate in a program under this chapter in which the state enters into a financing contract on behalf of that other agency, and the other agency's obligations to the state under the program may be evidenced by an agreement, lease, bond, note, or other appropriate instrument. A financing contract made by the state on behalf of an other agency may be secured by the pledge of revenues of the other agency or other agency's full faith and credit or may, at the option of the state finance committee, include a contingent obligation by the state for payment under such financing contract.

Sec. 3. RCW 84.52.056 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 s 104 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Any municipal corporation otherwise authorized by law to issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes may, at an election duly held after giving notice thereof as required by law, authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, which ((shall)) does not include the replacement of equipment, and provide for the payment of the principal and interest of such bonds by annual levies in excess of the tax limitations contained in RCW 84.52.050 to 84.52.056, inclusive and RCW 84.52.043. Such an election ((shall)) may not be held ((oftener)) more often than twice a calendar year, and the proposition to issue any such bonds and to exceed ((said)) the tax limitation must receive the affirmative vote of a three-fifths majority of those voting on the proposition and the total number of persons voting at ((such)) the election must constitute not less than forty percent of the voters in ((said)) the municipal corporation who voted at the last preceding general state election.

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(2) Any taxing district ((shall have)) has the right by vote of its governing body to refund any general obligation bonds of said district issued for capital purposes only, and to provide for the interest thereon and amortization thereof by annual levies in excess of the tax limitations provided for in RCW 84.52.050 to 84.52.056, inclusive and RCW 84.52.043.

 (3) For the purposes of this section, "bond" includes a municipal corporation's obligation to make payments to the state in connection with a financing contract entered into by the state by or on behalf of a municipal corporation under chapter 39.94 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The authority conferred on the state and any municipal corporation or other agency under this act is in addition and supplemental to any other authority granted by applicable law. Any action previously taken by the state, a municipal corporation, or other agency consistent with the provisions of this act is approved and confirmed.

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