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SENATE BILL 5332

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2013 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Nelson, Rolfes, Conway, Fain, and Delvin

Read first time 01/28/13. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1            AN ACT Relating to voter-approved benefit charges for fire  
2 protection districts; and amending RCW 52.18.050.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 52.18.050 and 1998 c 16 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) Any benefit charge authorized by this chapter shall not be  
7 effective unless a proposition to impose the benefit charge is approved  
8 by a (~~sixty percent~~) majority of the voters of the district voting at  
9 a general election or at a special election called by the district for  
10 that purpose, held within the fire protection district. An election  
11 held pursuant to this section shall be held not more than twelve months  
12 prior to the date on which the first such charge is to be assessed:  
13 PROVIDED, That a benefit charge approved at an election shall not  
14 remain in effect for a period of more than six years nor more than the  
15 number of years authorized by the voters if fewer than six years unless  
16 subsequently reapproved by the voters.

17            (2) The ballot shall be submitted so as to enable the voters  
18 favoring the authorization of a fire protection district benefit charge

1 to vote "Yes" and those opposed thereto to vote "No," and the ballot  
2 shall be:

3 "Shall . . . . . county fire protection district No. . . . .  
4 be authorized to impose benefit charges each year for . . . .  
5 (insert number of years not to exceed six) years, not to exceed  
6 an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and  
7 be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under  
8 RCW 52.16.160?

9 YES NO  
10

11 (3) Districts renewing the benefit charge may elect to use the  
12 following alternative ballot:

13 "Shall . . . . . county fire protection district No. . . . .  
14 be authorized to continue voter-authorized benefit charges each  
15 year for . . . . (insert number of years not to exceed six)  
16 years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its  
17 operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional  
18 property tax under RCW 52.16.160?

19 YES NO  
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