
HOUSE BILL 1344

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Dolan, Nealey, Doglio, Springer, Frame, Riccelli, Appleton, Ryu, Ormsby, and Goodman

Read first time 01/18/17. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the period for which a bond levy may
2 be increased; amending RCW 84.55.050; and creating a new section.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.55.050 and 2009 c 551 s 3 are each amended to
5 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
11 proposition at a general election held within the district or at a
12 special election within the taxing district called by the district
13 for the purpose of submitting such proposition to the voters. Any
14 election held pursuant to this section shall be held not more than
15 twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed levy is to be
16 made, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. The
17 ballot of the proposition shall state the dollar rate proposed and
18 shall clearly state the conditions, if any, which are applicable
19 under subsection (4) of this section.

20 (2)(a) Subject to statutory dollar limitations, a proposition
21 placed before the voters under this section may authorize annual

1 increases in levies for multiple consecutive years, up to six
2 consecutive years, during which period each year's authorized maximum
3 legal levy shall be used as the base upon which an increased levy
4 limit for the succeeding year is computed, but the ballot proposition
5 must state the dollar rate proposed only for the first year of the
6 consecutive years and must state the limit factor, or a specified
7 index to be used for determining a limit factor, such as the consumer
8 price index, which need not be the same for all years, by which the
9 regular tax levy for the district may be increased in each of the
10 subsequent consecutive years. Elections for this purpose must be held
11 at a primary or general election. The title of each ballot measure
12 must state the limited purposes for which the proposed annual
13 increases during the specified period of up to six consecutive years
14 shall be used.

15 (b)(i) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (2)(b),
16 funds raised by a levy under this subsection may not supplant
17 existing funds used for the limited purpose specified in the ballot
18 title. For purposes of this subsection, existing funds means the
19 actual operating expenditures for the calendar year in which the
20 ballot measure is approved by voters. Actual operating expenditures
21 excludes lost federal funds, lost or expired state grants or loans,
22 extraordinary events not likely to reoccur, changes in contract
23 provisions beyond the control of the taxing district receiving the
24 services, and major nonrecurring capital expenditures.

25 (ii) The supplanting limitations in (b)(i) of this subsection do
26 not apply to levies approved by the voters in calendar years 2009,
27 2010, and 2011, in any county with a population of one million five
28 hundred thousand or more. This subsection (2)(b)(ii) only applies to
29 levies approved by the voters after July 26, 2009.

30 (iii) The supplanting limitations in (b)(i) of this subsection do
31 not apply to levies approved by the voters in calendar year 2009 and
32 thereafter in any county with a population less than one million five
33 hundred thousand. This subsection (2)(b)(iii) only applies to levies
34 approved by the voters after July 26, 2009.

35 (3) After a levy authorized pursuant to this section is made, the
36 dollar amount of such levy may not be used for the purpose of
37 computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided for in this
38 chapter, unless the ballot proposition expressly states that the levy
39 made under this section will be used for this purpose.

1 (4) If expressly stated, a proposition placed before the voters
2 under subsection (1) or (2) of this section may:

3 (a) Use the dollar amount of a levy under subsection (1) of this
4 section, or the dollar amount of the final levy under subsection (2)
5 of this section, for the purpose of computing the limitations for
6 subsequent levies provided for in this chapter;

7 (b) Limit the period for which the increased levy is to be made
8 under (a) of this subsection;

9 (c) Limit the purpose for which the increased levy is to be made
10 under (a) of this subsection, but if the limited purpose includes
11 making redemption payments on bonds, the period for which the
12 increased levies are made (~~shall~~) may not exceed (~~nine~~) thirty
13 years;

14 (d) Set the levy or levies at a rate less than the maximum rate
15 allowed for the district; or

16 (e) Include any combination of the conditions in this subsection.

17 (5) Except as otherwise expressly stated in an approved ballot
18 measure under this section, subsequent levies shall be computed as
19 if:

20 (a) The proposition under this section had not been approved; and

21 (b) The taxing district had made levies at the maximum rates
22 which would otherwise have been allowed under this chapter during the
23 years levies were made under the proposition.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act applies to taxes levied for
25 collection in 2018 and thereafter.

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