

SHB 2348 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 02/29/2024

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 36.62.010 and 1984 c 26 s 1 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 The legislative authority of any county may establish, provide,
6 and maintain hospitals for the care and treatment of the indigent,
7 sick, injured, or infirm, and for this purpose the county legislative
8 authority may:

9 (1) Purchase or lease real property or use lands already owned by
10 the county;

11 (2) Erect all necessary buildings, make all necessary
12 improvements and repairs and alter any existing building for the use
13 of said hospitals;

14 (3) Use county moneys, levy taxes, and issue bonds as authorized
15 by law, to raise a sufficient amount of money to ~~((cover))~~ pay,
16 finance, or refinance the cost of procuring the site, constructing
17 and operating hospitals, and for the maintenance and capital expenses
18 thereof and all other necessary and proper expenses; and

19 (4) Accept and hold in trust for the county any grant of land,
20 gift or bequest of money, or any donation for the benefit of the
21 purposes of this chapter, and apply the same in accordance with the
22 terms of the gift.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.62.090 and 1984 c 26 s 6 are each amended to read
24 as follows:

25 (1) If the hospital is established, the county legislative
26 authority, at the time of levying general taxes, may levy an
27 additional regular property tax, not to exceed ((fifty)) 20 cents per
28 thousand dollars of assessed value in any one year, for the
29 operation, maintenance, and capital expenses of the hospital, and any
30 outpatient clinics operated by the hospital, and for the payment of
31 principal and interest on bonds issued for such purposes. The

1 limitations in RCW 84.52.043 do not apply to the tax levy authorized
2 in this section and the limitation in RCW 84.55.010 does not apply to
3 the first year that the tax levy is imposed under this section.

4 (2) Only a county with a population exceeding 2,000,000 may
5 impose the additional regular property tax authorized under this
6 section.

7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 84.52.043 and 2023 c 28 s 5 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 Within and subject to the limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 as
10 amended, the regular ad valorem tax levies upon real and personal
11 property by the taxing districts hereafter named are as follows:

12 (1) Levies of the senior taxing districts are as follows: (a) The
13 levies by the state may not exceed the applicable aggregate rate
14 limit specified in RCW 84.52.065 (2) or (4) adjusted to the state
15 equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the
16 state department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of
17 the common schools; (b) the levy by any county may not exceed \$1.80
18 per \$1,000 of assessed value; (c) the levy by any road district may
19 not exceed \$2.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value; and (d) the levy by
20 any city or town may not exceed \$3.375 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
21 However, any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from
22 \$1.80 to a rate not to exceed \$2.475 per \$1,000 of assessed value for
23 general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and
24 any road district within the county do not exceed \$4.05 per \$1,000 of
25 assessed value, and no other taxing district has its levy reduced as
26 a result of the increased county levy.

27 (2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior
28 taxing districts, other than the state, may not exceed \$5.90 per
29 \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The term "junior taxing districts"
30 includes all taxing districts other than the state, counties, road
31 districts, cities, towns, port districts, and public utility
32 districts. The limitations provided in this subsection do not apply
33 to: (a) Levies at the rates provided by existing law by or for any
34 port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax levies
35 authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution; (c)
36 levies for acquiring conservation futures as authorized under RCW
37 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical
38 services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies to finance
39 affordable housing imposed under RCW 84.52.105; (f) the portions of

1 levies by metropolitan park districts that are protected under RCW
2 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130;
3 (h) levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW 84.52.135; (i) the
4 portions of levies by fire protection districts and regional fire
5 protection service authorities that are protected under RCW
6 84.52.125; (j) levies by counties for transit-related purposes under
7 RCW 84.52.140; (k) the portion of the levy by flood control zone
8 districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.816; (l) levies imposed
9 by a regional transit authority under RCW 81.104.175; (m) levies
10 imposed by any park and recreation district described under RCW
11 84.52.010(3)(a)(viii); ~~((and))~~ (n) the portion of any levy resulting
12 from the correction of a levy error under RCW 84.52.085(3); and (o)
13 levies for county hospital purposes under RCW 36.62.090.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 84.52.043 and 2023 c 28 s 6 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 Within and subject to the limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 as
17 amended, the regular ad valorem tax levies upon real and personal
18 property by the taxing districts hereafter named are as follows:

19 (1) Levies of the senior taxing districts are as follows: (a) The
20 levies by the state may not exceed the applicable aggregate rate
21 limit specified in RCW 84.52.065 (2) or (4) adjusted to the state
22 equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the
23 state department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of
24 the common schools; (b) the levy by any county may not exceed \$1.80
25 per \$1,000 of assessed value; (c) the levy by any road district may
26 not exceed \$2.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value; and (d) the levy by
27 any city or town may not exceed \$3.375 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
28 However any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from
29 \$1.80 to a rate not to exceed \$2.475 per \$1,000 of assessed value for
30 general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and
31 any road district within the county do not exceed \$4.05 per \$1,000 of
32 assessed value, and no other taxing district has its levy reduced as
33 a result of the increased county levy.

34 (2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior
35 taxing districts, other than the state, may not exceed \$5.90 per
36 \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The term "junior taxing districts"
37 includes all taxing districts other than the state, counties, road
38 districts, cities, towns, port districts, and public utility
39 districts. The limitations provided in this subsection do not apply

1 to: (a) Levies at the rates provided by existing law by or for any
2 port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax levies
3 authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution; (c)
4 levies for acquiring conservation futures as authorized under RCW
5 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical
6 services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies to finance
7 affordable housing imposed under RCW 84.52.105; (f) the portions of
8 levies by metropolitan park districts that are protected under RCW
9 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130;
10 (h) levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW 84.52.135; (i) the
11 portions of levies by fire protection districts and regional fire
12 protection service authorities that are protected under RCW
13 84.52.125; (j) levies by counties for transit-related purposes under
14 RCW 84.52.140; (k) the portion of the levy by flood control zone
15 districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.816; (l) levies imposed
16 by a regional transit authority under RCW 81.104.175; (~~and~~) (m) the
17 portion of any levy resulting from the correction of a levy error
18 under RCW 84.52.085(3); and (n) levies for county hospital purposes
19 under RCW 36.62.090.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 84.52.010 and 2023 c 28 s 3 are each amended to read
21 as follows:

22 (1) Except as is permitted under RCW 84.55.050, all taxes must be
23 levied or voted in specific amounts.

24 (2) The rate percent of all taxes for state and county purposes,
25 and purposes of taxing districts coextensive with the county, must be
26 determined, calculated and fixed by the county assessors of the
27 respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the
28 assessed valuation of the property of the county, as shown by the
29 completed tax rolls of the county, and the rate percent of all taxes
30 levied for purposes of taxing districts within any county must be
31 determined, calculated, and fixed by the county assessors of the
32 respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the
33 assessed valuation of the property of the taxing districts
34 respectively.

35 (3) When a county assessor finds that the aggregate rate of tax
36 levy on any property, that is subject to the limitations set forth in
37 RCW 84.52.043 or 84.52.050, exceeds the limitations provided in
38 either of these sections, the assessor must recompute and establish a
39 consolidated levy in the following manner:

1 (a) The full certified rates of tax levy for state, county,
2 county road district, regional transit authority, and city or town
3 purposes must be extended on the tax rolls in amounts not exceeding
4 the limitations established by law; however, any state levy takes
5 precedence over all other levies and may not be reduced for any
6 purpose other than that required by RCW 84.55.010. If, as a result of
7 the levies imposed under RCW 36.54.130, 36.69.145 by a park and
8 recreation district described under (a)(viii) of this subsection (3),
9 84.34.230, 84.52.069, 84.52.105, 36.62.090, the portion of the levy
10 by a metropolitan park district that was protected under RCW
11 84.52.120, 84.52.125, 84.52.135, and 84.52.140, the portion of the
12 levy by a flood control zone district that was protected under RCW
13 84.52.816, and any portion of a levy resulting from the correction of
14 a levy error under RCW 84.52.085(3), the combined rate of regular
15 property tax levies that are subject to the one percent limitation
16 exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property, then
17 these levies must be reduced as follows:

18 (i) The portion of any levy resulting from the correction of a
19 levy error under RCW 84.52.085(3) must be reduced until the combined
20 rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any
21 property or must be eliminated;

22 (ii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
23 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
24 the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy by a
25 flood control zone district that was protected under RCW 84.52.816
26 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent
27 of the true and fair value of any property or must be eliminated;

28 (iii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
29 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
30 of the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a
31 county under RCW 84.52.140 must be reduced until the combined rate no
32 longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property
33 or must be eliminated;

34 (iv) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
35 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
36 the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy by a
37 fire protection district or regional fire protection service
38 authority that is protected under RCW 84.52.125 must be reduced until
39 the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair
40 value of any property or must be eliminated;

1 (v) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
2 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
3 the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a county
4 under RCW 84.52.135 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer
5 exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property or
6 must be eliminated;

7 (vi) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
8 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
9 the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a ferry
10 district under RCW 36.54.130 must be reduced until the combined rate
11 no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any
12 property or must be eliminated;

13 (vii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
14 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
15 of the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy
16 by a metropolitan park district that is protected under RCW 84.52.120
17 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent
18 of the true and fair value of any property or must be eliminated;

19 (viii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
20 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
21 of the true and fair value of any property, then the levies imposed
22 under RCW 36.69.145 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer
23 exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property or
24 must be eliminated. This subsection (3)(a)(viii) only applies to a
25 park and recreation district located on an island and within a county
26 with a population exceeding 2,000,000;

27 (ix) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
28 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
29 the true and fair value of any property, then the levies imposed
30 under RCW 84.34.230, 84.52.105, 36.62.090, and any portion of the
31 levy imposed under RCW 84.52.069 that is in excess of 30 cents per
32 \$1,000 of assessed value, must be reduced on a pro rata basis until
33 the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair
34 value of any property or must be eliminated; and

35 (x) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
36 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
37 the true and fair value of any property, then the 30 cents per \$1,000
38 of assessed value of tax levy imposed under RCW 84.52.069 must be
39 reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the
40 true and fair value of any property or eliminated.

1 (b) The certified rates of tax levy subject to these limitations
2 by all junior taxing districts imposing taxes on such property must
3 be reduced or eliminated as follows to bring the consolidated levy of
4 taxes on such property within the provisions of these limitations:

5 (i) First, the certified property tax levy authorized under RCW
6 84.52.821 must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

7 (ii) Second, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
8 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of those
9 junior taxing districts authorized under RCW 36.68.525, 36.69.145
10 except a park and recreation district described under (a)(viii) of
11 this subsection, 35.95A.100, and 67.38.130 must be reduced on a pro
12 rata basis or eliminated;

13 (iii) Third, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
14 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of flood
15 control zone districts other than the portion of a levy protected
16 under RCW 84.52.816 must be reduced on a pro rata basis or
17 eliminated;

18 (iv) Fourth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
19 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of all other
20 junior taxing districts, other than fire protection districts,
21 regional fire protection service authorities, library districts, the
22 first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation levies for
23 metropolitan park districts, and the first 50 cents per \$1,000 of
24 assessed valuation levies for public hospital districts, must be
25 reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

26 (v) Fifth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these
27 limitations, the first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation
28 levies for metropolitan park districts created on or after January 1,
29 2002, must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

30 (vi) Sixth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these
31 limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized to fire
32 protection districts under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160 and regional
33 fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140(1) (b) and
34 (c) must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated; and

35 (vii) Seventh, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
36 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized
37 for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.130, regional fire
38 protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140(1)(a), library
39 districts, metropolitan park districts created before January 1,
40 2002, under their first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation

1 levy, and public hospital districts under their first 50 cents per
2 \$1,000 of assessed valuation levy, must be reduced on a pro rata
3 basis or eliminated.

4 **Sec. 6.** RCW 84.52.010 and 2023 c 28 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Except as is permitted under RCW 84.55.050, all taxes must be
7 levied or voted in specific amounts.

8 (2) The rate percent of all taxes for state and county purposes,
9 and purposes of taxing districts coextensive with the county, must be
10 determined, calculated and fixed by the county assessors of the
11 respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the
12 assessed valuation of the property of the county, as shown by the
13 completed tax rolls of the county, and the rate percent of all taxes
14 levied for purposes of taxing districts within any county must be
15 determined, calculated and fixed by the county assessors of the
16 respective counties, within the limitations provided by law, upon the
17 assessed valuation of the property of the taxing districts
18 respectively.

19 (3) When a county assessor finds that the aggregate rate of tax
20 levy on any property, that is subject to the limitations set forth in
21 RCW 84.52.043 or 84.52.050, exceeds the limitations provided in
22 either of these sections, the assessor must recompute and establish a
23 consolidated levy in the following manner:

24 (a) The full certified rates of tax levy for state, county,
25 county road district, regional transit authority, and city or town
26 purposes must be extended on the tax rolls in amounts not exceeding
27 the limitations established by law; however any state levy takes
28 precedence over all other levies and may not be reduced for any
29 purpose other than that required by RCW 84.55.010. If, as a result of
30 the levies imposed under RCW 36.54.130, 84.34.230, 84.52.069,
31 84.52.105, 36.62.090, the portion of the levy by a metropolitan park
32 district that was protected under RCW 84.52.120, 84.52.125,
33 84.52.135, and 84.52.140, the portion of the levy by a flood control
34 zone district that was protected under RCW 84.52.816, and the portion
35 of any levy resulting from the correction of a levy error under RCW
36 84.52.085(3), the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
37 are subject to the one percent limitation exceeds one percent of the
38 true and fair value of any property, then these levies must be
39 reduced as follows:

1 (i) The portion of any levy resulting from the correction of a
2 levy error under RCW 84.52.085(3) must be reduced until the combined
3 rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any
4 property or must be eliminated;

5 (ii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
6 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
7 the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy by a
8 flood control zone district that was protected under RCW 84.52.816
9 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent
10 of the true and fair value of any property or must be eliminated;

11 (iii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
12 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
13 of the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a
14 county under RCW 84.52.140 must be reduced until the combined rate no
15 longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property
16 or must be eliminated;

17 (iv) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
18 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
19 the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy by a
20 fire protection district or regional fire protection service
21 authority that is protected under RCW 84.52.125 must be reduced until
22 the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair
23 value of any property or must be eliminated;

24 (v) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
25 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
26 the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a county
27 under RCW 84.52.135 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer
28 exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any property or
29 must be eliminated;

30 (vi) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
31 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
32 the true and fair value of any property, the levy imposed by a ferry
33 district under RCW 36.54.130 must be reduced until the combined rate
34 no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair value of any
35 property or must be eliminated;

36 (vii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
37 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
38 of the true and fair value of any property, the portion of the levy
39 by a metropolitan park district that is protected under RCW 84.52.120

1 must be reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent
2 of the true and fair value of any property or must be eliminated;

3 (viii) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that
4 are subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent
5 of the true and fair value of any property, then the levies imposed
6 under RCW 84.34.230, 84.52.105, 36.62.090, and any portion of the
7 levy imposed under RCW 84.52.069 that is in excess of 30 cents per
8 \$1,000 of assessed value, must be reduced on a pro rata basis until
9 the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the true and fair
10 value of any property or must be eliminated; and

11 (ix) If the combined rate of regular property tax levies that are
12 subject to the one percent limitation still exceeds one percent of
13 the true and fair value of any property, then the 30 cents per \$1,000
14 of assessed value of tax levy imposed under RCW 84.52.069 must be
15 reduced until the combined rate no longer exceeds one percent of the
16 true and fair value of any property or eliminated.

17 (b) The certified rates of tax levy subject to these limitations
18 by all junior taxing districts imposing taxes on such property must
19 be reduced or eliminated as follows to bring the consolidated levy of
20 taxes on such property within the provisions of these limitations:

21 (i) First, the certified property tax levy authorized under RCW
22 84.52.821 must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

23 (ii) Second, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
24 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of those
25 junior taxing districts authorized under RCW 36.68.525, 36.69.145,
26 35.95A.100, and 67.38.130 must be reduced on a pro rata basis or
27 eliminated;

28 (iii) Third, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
29 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of flood
30 control zone districts other than the portion of a levy protected
31 under RCW 84.52.816 must be reduced on a pro rata basis or
32 eliminated;

33 (iv) Fourth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
34 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates of all other
35 junior taxing districts, other than fire protection districts,
36 regional fire protection service authorities, library districts, the
37 first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation levies for
38 metropolitan park districts, and the first 50 cents per \$1,000 of
39 assessed valuation levies for public hospital districts, must be
40 reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

1 (v) Fifth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these
2 limitations, the first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation
3 levies for metropolitan park districts created on or after January 1,
4 2002, must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated;

5 (vi) Sixth, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds these
6 limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized to fire
7 protection districts under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160 and regional
8 fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140(1) (b) and
9 (c) must be reduced on a pro rata basis or eliminated; and

10 (vii) Seventh, if the consolidated tax levy rate still exceeds
11 these limitations, the certified property tax levy rates authorized
12 for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.130, regional fire
13 protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140(1)(a), library
14 districts, metropolitan park districts created before January 1,
15 2002, under their first 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation
16 levy, and public hospital districts under their first 50 cents per
17 \$1,000 of assessed valuation levy, must be reduced on a pro rata
18 basis or eliminated.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 3 and 5 of this act expire
20 January 1, 2027.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 4 and 6 of this act take effect
22 January 1, 2027."

SHB 2348 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 02/29/2024

23 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "funding;" strike the
24 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 36.62.010, 36.62.090,
25 84.52.043, 84.52.043, 84.52.010, and 84.52.010; providing an
26 effective date; and providing an expiration date."

--- END ---