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SENATE BILL 5656

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Newhouse, Matson, Owen, Niemi, Sutherland and McMullen; by request of Department of Community Development and Office of Financial Management.

Read first time February 13, 1991. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the public works board; creating new sections;
- 2 making an appropriation; and providing an expiration date.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** (1) For the period beginning July 1,
- 5 1991 and ending June 30, 1993, in those areas designated by the
- 6 department of community development as timber impact areas, the public
- 7 works board may award low-interest or interest-free loans to local
- 8 governments for construction of new public works facilities that
- 9 stimulate economic growth or diversification.
- 10 (2) For the purposes of this act, "public facilities" means bridge,
- 11 road and street, domestic water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer
- 12 systems.
- 13 (3) The loans may have a deferred payment of up to five years but
- 14 shall be repaid within twenty years. The board may require other terms

- 1 and conditions and may charge such rates of interest on its loans as it
- 2 deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section. Repayments
- 3 shall be made to the public works assistance account.
- 4 (4) The board may make such loans irrespective of the annual loan
- 5 cycle and reporting required in RCW 43.155.070.
- 6 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) As authorized by section 1 of this
- 7 act, the board shall establish criteria for awarding loans to local
- 8 governments including, but not limited to, the following:
- 9 (a) If a county or city, the local government must be imposing the
- 10 tax authorized by chapter 82.46 RCW at a rate of at least one-quarter
- 11 of one percent;
- 12 (b) The local government must have in place a capital improvement
- 13 plan meeting standards established by the board and an economic
- 14 development plan meeting standards established by the department;
- 15 (c) The local economy must have experienced or be about to
- 16 experience employment losses due to the timber economy;
- 17 (d) The proposed project must provide an opportunity to create or
- 18 retain jobs within the local economy. Priority may be given to those
- 19 projects that provide an opportunity to retain or create jobs for the
- 20 pool of local workers affected by the timber economy;
- 21 (e) The local government must provide reasonable assurances of its
- 22 ability to repay the debt; and
- 23 (f) The local government must meet any additional guidelines and
- 24 criteria established by the board for awarding loan funds.
- 25 (2) Existing debt or other financial obligations of the local
- 26 government shall not be refinanced under this act.
- 27 (3) The board shall award loans only to those projects that meet
- 28 the criteria and will fulfill the purpose of this act. Any funds not

- 1 obligated at the close of the biennium shall be returned to the public
- 2 works assistance account.
- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** For the biennium beginning July 1, 1991,
- 4 and ending June 30, 1993, there is hereby appropriated from the public
- 5 works assistance account created in RCW 43.155.050 seven million
- 6 dollars to be utilized by the board for the purposes of this act.
- 7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 4.** The board shall provide to the office of
- 8 financial management and the legislative fiscal committees a report by
- 9 January 15, 1994, on the loans awarded through the biennium ending June
- 10 30, 1993.
- 11 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act shall
- 12 expire on June 30, 1993.