2 **ESHB 1464** - S COMM AMD S2994.1

- 3 By Committee on Government Operations
- 4 ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY S-3279.1, S-3132.4, S-3233.1 4/14/93
- 5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 6 following:
- 7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 42.12 RCW 8 to read as follows:
- A vacancy on an elected nonpartisan governing body of a special purpose district where property ownership is not a qualification to vote, a town, or a city other than a first class city or a charter code city, shall be filled as follows unless the provisions of law relating to the special district, town, or city provide otherwise:
- 14 (1) Where one position is vacant, the remaining members of the 15 governing body shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacant 16 position.
- 17 (2) Where two or more positions are vacant and two or more members 18 of the governing body remain in office, the remaining members of the 19 governing body shall appoint a qualified person to fill one of the 20 vacant positions, the remaining members of the governing body and the newly appointed person shall appoint another qualified person to fill 21 22 another vacant position, and so on until each of the vacant positions 23 is filled with each of the new appointees participating in each appointment that is made after his or her appointment. 24
- (3) If less than two members of a governing body remain in office, the county legislative authority of the county in which all or the largest geographic portion of the city, town, or special district is located shall appoint a qualified person or persons to the governing body until the governing body has two members.
- 30 (4) If a governing body fails to appoint a qualified person to fill 31 a vacancy within ninety days of the occurrence of the vacancy, the 32 authority of the governing body to fill the vacancy shall cease and the 33 county legislative authority of the county in which all or the largest 34 geographic portion of the city, town, or special district is located 35 shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy.

- (5) If the county legislative authority of the county fails to 1 appoint a qualified person within one hundred eighty days of the 2 3 occurrence of the vacancy, the county legislative authority or the 4 remaining members of the governing body of the city, town, or special district may petition the governor to appoint a qualified person to 5 fill the vacancy. The governor may appoint a qualified person to fill 6 7 the vacancy after being petitioned if at the time the governor fills 8 the vacancy the county legislative authority has not appointed a 9 qualified person to fill the vacancy.
- 10 (6) As provided in RCW 29.15.190 and 29.21.410, each person who is appointed shall serve until a qualified person is elected at the next 11 election at which a member of the governing body normally would be 12 13 elected that occurs twenty-eight or more days after the occurrence of 14 the vacancy. If needed, special filing periods shall be authorized as 15 provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180 for qualified persons to file 16 for the vacant office. A primary shall be held to nominate candidates if sufficient time exists to hold a primary and more than two 17 candidates file for the vacant office. Otherwise, a primary shall not 18 19 be held and the person receiving the greatest number of votes shall be 20 elected. The person elected shall take office immediately and serve the remainder of the unexpired term. 21
- If an election for the position that became vacant would otherwise have been held at this general election date, only one election to fill the position shall be held and the person elected to fill the succeeding term for that position shall take office immediately when qualified as defined in RCW 29.01.135 and shall service both the remainder of the unexpired term and the succeeding term.
- 28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.12.010 and 1981 c 180 s 4 are each amended to read 29 as follows:
- 30 Every elective office shall become vacant on the happening of any 31 of the following events:
- 32 (1) The death of the incumbent;
- 33 (2) His or her resignation. A vacancy caused by resignation shall 34 be deemed to occur upon the effective date of the resignation;
 - (3) His or her removal;

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36 (4) His or her ceasing to be a legally ((qualified elector))
37 registered voter of the district, county, city, town, or other
38 municipal or quasi municipal corporation from which he or she shall

- 1 have been elected or appointed, including where applicable the council
- 2 <u>district</u>, commissioner district, or ward from which he or she shall
- 3 have been elected or appointed;
- 4 (5) His or her conviction of a felony, or of any offense involving 5 a violation of his or her official oath;
- 6 (6) His or her refusal or neglect to take his or her oath of 7 office, or to give or renew his or her official bond, or to deposit 8 such oath or bond within the time prescribed by law;
- 9 (7) The decision of a competent tribunal declaring void his or her 10 election or appointment; or
- 11 (8) Whenever a judgment shall be obtained against that incumbent 12 for breach of the condition of his or her official bond.
- 13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.06.010 and 1992 c 172 s 1 are each amended to read 14 as follows:
- In addition to those prescribed by the Constitution, the governor may exercise the powers and perform the duties prescribed in this and
- 17 the following sections:
- 18 (1) The governor shall supervise the conduct of all executive and 19 ministerial offices;
- 20 (2) The governor shall see that all offices are filled, <u>including</u> 21 <u>as provided in section 1 of this act</u> and the duties thereof performed,
- 22 or in default thereof, apply such remedy as the law allows; and if the
- 23 remedy is imperfect, acquaint the legislature therewith at its next
- 24 session;
- 25 (3) The governor shall make the appointments and supply the 26 vacancies mentioned in this title;
- 27 (4) The governor is the sole official organ of communication 28 between the government of this state and the government of any other
- 29 state or territory, or of the United States;
- 30 (5) Whenever any suit or legal proceeding is pending against this 31 state, or which may affect the title of this state to any property, or
- 32 which may result in any claim against the state, the governor may
- 33 direct the attorney general to appear on behalf of the state, and
- 34 report the same to the governor, or to any grand jury designated by the
- 35 governor, or to the legislature when next in session;
- 36 (6) The governor may require the attorney general or any
- 37 prosecuting attorney to inquire into the affairs or management of any
- 38 corporation existing under the laws of this state, or doing business in

- 1 this state, and report the same to the governor, or to any grand jury 2 designated by the governor, or to the legislature when next in session;
- 3 (7) The governor may require the attorney general to aid any 4 prosecuting attorney in the discharge of ((his)) the prosecutor's duties;
- 6 (8) The governor may offer rewards, not exceeding one thousand 7 dollars in each case, payable out of the state treasury, for 8 information leading to the apprehension of any person convicted of a 9 felony who has escaped from a state correctional institution or for 10 information leading to the arrest of any person who has committed or is 11 charged with the commission of a felony;
- 12 (9) The governor shall perform such duties respecting fugitives 13 from justice as are prescribed by law;
- 14 (10) The governor shall issue and transmit election proclamations 15 as prescribed by law;
- 16 (11) The governor may require any officer or board to make, upon 17 demand, special reports to the governor, in writing;
- (12) The governor may, after finding that a public disorder, disaster, energy emergency, or riot exists within this state or any part thereof which affects life, health, property, or the public peace, proclaim a state of emergency in the area affected, and the powers granted the governor during a state of emergency shall be effective only within the area described in the proclamation;
- (13) The governor shall, when appropriate, submit to the select joint committee created by RCW 43.131.120, lists of state agencies, as defined by RCW 43.131.030, which agencies might appropriately be scheduled for termination by a bill proposed by the select joint committee;
- 29 (14) The governor may, after finding that there exists within this 30 state an imminent danger of infestation of plant pests as defined in 31 RCW 17.24.007 or plant diseases which seriously endangers the agricultural or horticultural industries of the state of Washington, or 32 which seriously threatens life, health, or economic well-being, order 33 34 emergency measures to prevent or abate the infestation or disease 35 situation, which measures, after thorough evaluation of all other alternatives, may include the aerial application of pesticides; 36
- 37 (15) On all compacts forwarded to the governor pursuant to RCW 38 9.46.360(6), the governor is authorized and empowered to execute on 39 behalf of the state compacts with federally recognized Indian tribes in

- 1 the state of Washington pursuant to the federal Indian Gaming
- 2 Regulatory Act, 25 U.S.C. Sec. 2701 et seq., for conducting class III
- 3 gaming, as defined in the Act, on Indian lands.
- 4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 14.08.304 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
- The board of airport district commissioners shall consist of three 6 7 members((, who shall each be a registered voter and actually a resident 8 of the district)). The first commissioners shall be appointed by the 9 county legislative authority. At the next general district election, held as provided in RCW 29.13.020, three airport district commissioners 10 The terms of office of airport district 11 shall be elected. commissioners shall be two years, or until their successors are elected 12 and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. 13 14 Members of the board of airport district commissioners shall be elected 15 at each regular <u>district</u> general election on a nonpartisan basis <u>in</u> accordance with the general election law. ((They shall be nominated by 16 petition of ten registered voters of the district.)) Vacancies on the 17 18 board of airport district commissioners shall occur and shall be filled 19 ((by appointment by the remaining commissioners)) as provided in

24 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.315.520 and 1971 c 53 s 4 are each amended to read

expenses incurred while engaged on official business.

commissioners shall receive no compensation for their services, but

shall be reimbursed for actual necessary traveling and sustenance

Members of the board of airport district

- A majority of all members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum. Absence of any board member from four consecutive regular meetings of the board, unless on account of sickness or authorized by resolution of the board, shall be sufficient cause for the remaining members of the board to declare by resolution that such board member position is vacated. In addition, vacancies shall occur
- 32 as provided in RCW 42.12.010.

chapter 42.12 RCW.

as follows:

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 29.15 RCW to read as follows:
- 35 If, after the close of the period established by RCW 29.15.020 for
- 36 filing declarations of candidacy for the office of superintendent of

public instruction or the nonpartisan elective office of a county, city, town, or special purpose district, no candidate or only one candidate has filed such a declaration for the nonpartisan office, the closure of the filing period for the office shall be extended. The extended filing period shall close at the end of business on the first Friday following the normal closing of that period under RCW 29.15.020.

Declarations and affidavits of candidacy filed during this extended filing period for the office shall be filed in the same manner, with the same fees or petitions, and with the same officer as prescribed for filings made under RCW 29.15.020. The names of candidates who validly file within this extension of the filing period shall appear on the ballot as if the filings had been made during the normal filing period under RCW 29.15.020.

14 The requirements of this section apply to a nonpartisan office of 15 a county unless the provisions of the county's home rule charter 16 provide otherwise. This section does not apply to a judicial office.

17 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29.15.050 and 1990 c 59 s 85 are each amended to read 18 as follows:

A filing fee of one dollar shall accompany each declaration of candidacy for precinct committee officer; a filing fee of ((ten)) twenty dollars shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a fixed annual salary of one thousand dollars or less; a filing fee equal to one percent of the annual salary of the office at the time of filing shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a fixed annual salary of more than one thousand dollars per annum. No filing fee need accompany a declaration of candidacy for any office for which compensation is on a per diem or per meeting attended basis, nor for the filing of any declaration of candidacy by a write-in candidate.

A candidate who lacks sufficient assets or income at the time of filing to pay the filing fee required by this section shall submit with his or her declaration of candidacy a nominating petition. The petition shall contain not less than a number of signatures of registered voters equal to the number of dollars of the filing fee. The signatures shall be of voters registered to vote within the jurisdiction of the office for which the candidate is filing.

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- (1)) <u>a</u> legislative or judicial office that includes territory from 2 more than one county, the fee shall be paid to the secretary of state 3 for equal division between the treasuries of the counties comprising 4 the district.
- 5 (((2) A city or town office, the fee shall be paid to the county 6 auditor who shall transmit it to the city or town clerk for deposit in 7 the city or town treasury.))
- 8 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29.15.120 and 1990 c 59 s 86 are each amended to read 9 as follows:
- A candidate may withdraw his or her declaration of candidacy at any 10 time before the close of business on the Thursday following the last 11 day for candidates to file under RCW 29.15.020 by filing, with the 12 officer with whom the declaration of candidacy was filed, a signed 13 14 request that his or her name not be printed on the ballot. There shall 15 be no withdrawal period for declarations of candidacy filed during extended or special filing periods held under this title. The filing 16 officer may permit the withdrawal of a filing for the office of 17 18 precinct committee officer at the request of the candidate at any time if no absentee ballots have been issued for that office and the general 19 election ballots for that precinct have not been printed. The filing 20 officer may permit the withdrawal of a filing for any elected office of 21 22 a city, town, or special district at the request of the candidate at 23 any time before a primary if the primary ballots for that city, town, or special district have not been ordered. 24 No filing fee may be 25 refunded to any candidate who withdraws under this section. Notice of the deadline for withdrawal of candidacy and that the filing fee is not 26 27 refundable shall be given to each candidate at the time he or she 28 files.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 29.15 RCW to read as follows:
- Each person who files a declaration of candidacy for an elected office of a city, town, or special district shall be given written notice of the date by which a candidate may withdraw his or her candidacy under RCW 29.15.120.
- 35 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29.15.150 and 1973 c 4 s 3 are each amended to read 36 as follows:

- Whenever it shall be necessary to hold a special election in an odd-numbered year to fill an unexpired term of any office which is scheduled to be voted upon for a full term in an even-numbered year, no September primary election shall be held in the odd-numbered year if, after the last day allowed for candidates to withdraw or after the end of an extended filing period provided by section 6 of this act, either of the following circumstances exist:
- 8 (1) No more than one candidate of each qualified political party 9 has filed a declaration of candidacy for the same partisan office to be 10 filled; or
- 11 (2) No more than two candidates have filed a declaration of 12 candidacy for a single nonpartisan office to be filled.
- In either event, the officer with whom the declarations of candidacy were filed shall immediately notify all candidates concerned and the names of the candidates that would have been printed upon the September primary ballot, but for the provisions of this section, shall be printed as nominees for the positions sought upon the November general election ballot.
- 19 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29.15.160 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 9 are each 20 amended to read as follows:
- A void in candidacy for a nonpartisan office occurs when an election for such office, except for the short term, has been scheduled and ((no valid declaration of candidacy has been filed for the position or or)) all persons filing ((such)) valid declarations of candidacy for the office have died or been disqualified.
- 26 **Sec. 12.** RCW 29.15.170 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 10 are each 27 amended to read as follows:
- Filings for a nonpartisan office shall be reopened for a period of three normal business days, such three day period to be fixed by the election officer with whom such declarations of candidacy are filed and notice thereof given by notifying press, radio, and television in the county and by such other means as may now or hereafter be provided by law whenever before the fourth Tuesday prior to a primary:
- 34 (1) A valid declaration of candidacy has not been filed for a 35 judicial office during the normal filing period for the office;
- 36 (2) All of the candidates who have filed for a nonpartisan office
 37 have withdrawn their candidacies;

- 1 (3) A void in candidacy occurs;
- 2 $((\frac{2}{2}))$ (4) A vacancy occurs in any nonpartisan office leaving an
- 3 unexpired term to be filled by an election for which filings have not
- 4 been held; or
- 5 $((\frac{3}{3}))$ A nominee for judge of the superior court entitled to
- 6 a certificate of election pursuant to Article 4, section 29, Amendment
- 7 41 of the state Constitution, dies or is disqualified.
- 8 Candidacies validly filed within ((said)) the three-day period
- 9 shall appear on the ballot as if made during the earlier filing period.
- 10 **Sec. 13.** RCW 29.15.200 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 13 are each
- 11 amended to read as follows:
- 12 If, after ((both)) the normal filing period ((and)) for which an
- 13 extension of the filing period is not required by section 6 of this
- 14 act, after such an extended filing period, or after a special three day
- 15 filing period as provided by RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180((, as now or
- 16 hereafter amended, have passed and still)), no candidate has filed for
- 17 any single city, town, or district position to be filled, the election
- 18 for such position shall be deemed lapsed, the office deemed stricken
- 19 from the ballot and no write-in votes counted. In such instance, the
- 20 incumbent occupying such position shall remain in office and continue
- 21 to serve until ((his)) <u>a</u> successor is elected at the next election when
- 22 such positions are voted upon ((as provided by RCW 29.21.410, as now or
- 23 hereafter amended)).
- 24 Sec. 14. RCW 29.21.015 and 1990 c 59 s 90 are each amended to read
- 25 as follows:
- No primary may be held for any single position in any city, town,
- 27 or district, as required by RCW 29.21.010, if, after the last day
- 28 allowed for candidates to withdraw or after the end of an extended or
- 29 special filing period, there are no more than two candidates filed for
- 30 the position. The county auditor shall, as soon as possible, notify
- 31 all the candidates so affected that the office for which they filed
- 32 will not appear on the primary ballot. Names of candidates so notified
- 33 shall be printed upon the general election ballot in the manner
- 34 specified by RCW 29.30.025.
- 35 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 35.02 RCW
- 36 to read as follows:

An election shall be held to elect city or town elected officials 1 at the next municipal general election occurring more than twelve 2 months after the date of the first election of councilmembers or 3 4 commissioners. Candidates shall run for specific council or commission The staggering of terms of members of the city or town 5 council shall be established at this election, where the simple 6 7 majority of the persons elected as councilmembers receiving the 8 greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office 9 and the remainder of the persons elected as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office. Newly elected councilmembers or 10 newly elected commissioners shall serve until their successors are 11 elected and qualified. The terms of office of newly elected 12 13 commissioners shall not be staggered, as provided in chapter 35.17 RCW. 14 All councilmembers and commissioners who are elected subsequently shall 15 be elected to four-year terms of office and shall serve until their 16 successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. 17

18 Sec. 16. RCW 35.17.020 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 17 are each amended to read as follows: 19

All regular elections in cities organized under the statutory 20 commission form of government shall be held quadrennially in the odd-21 numbered years on the dates provided in RCW 29.13.020. 22 The 23 commissioners shall be nominated and elected at large. 24 shall be for four years and until their successors are elected and 25 qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. ((#f a 26 vacancy occurs in the commission the remaining members shall appoint a 27 person to fill it for the unexpired term.)) Vacancies on a commission shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW, 28 29 except that in every instance a person shall be elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term at the next general municipal election 30 that occurs twenty-eight or more days after the occurrence of the 31 vacancy.

33 Sec. 17. RCW 35.17.400 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 18 are each amended to read as follows: 34

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35 The first election of commissioners shall be held ((within)) at the 36 next special election that occurs at least sixty days after the 37 ((adoption of)) election results are certified where the proposition to

organize under the commission form was approved by city voters, and the commission first elected shall commence to serve as soon as they have been elected and have qualified and shall continue to serve until their successors have been elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. The date of the second election for commissioners shall be in accordance with RCW 29.13.020 such that the term of the first commissioners will be as near as possible to, but not in excess of, four years <u>calculated from the first day in January in</u> the year after the year in which the first commissioners were elected.

- **Sec. 18.** RCW 35.18.020 and 1981 c 260 s 7 are each amended to read 11 as follows:
- (1) The number of ((councilmen)) councilmembers in a city or town operating with a council-manager plan of government shall be ((in proportion to the population of the city or town indicated in its petition for incorporation and thereafter shall be in proportion to its population as last)) based upon the latest population of the city or town that is determined by the office of financial management as follows:
- 19 (a) A city or town having not more than two thousand inhabitants, 20 five ((councilmen)) councilmembers; and
- 21 (b) A city <u>or town</u> having more than two thousand, seven 22 ((councilmen)) <u>councilmembers</u>.

- (2) ((All councilmen shall be elected at large or from such wards or districts as may be established by ordinance, and shall serve for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That at the first general municipal election held in the city in accordance with RCW 29.13.020, after the election approving the council-manager plan, the following shall apply:
- (a) One councilman shall be nominated and elected from each ward or such other existing district of said city as may have been established for the election of members of the legislative body of the city and the remaining councilmen shall be elected at large; but if there are no such wards or districts in the city, or at an initial election for the incorporation of a community, the councilmen shall be elected at large.
- (b) In cities electing five councilmen, the candidates having the three highest number of votes shall be elected for a four year term and the other two for a two year term commencing immediately when qualified

in accordance with RCW 29.01.135 and continuing until their successors 1 are elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with 2 3 RCW 29.04.170.

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(c) In cities electing seven councilmen, the candidates having the four highest number of votes shall be elected for a four year term and the other three for a two year term commencing immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135 and continuing until their successors are elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

(d) In determining the candidates receiving the highest number of votes, only the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in each ward, as well as the councilman-at-large or councilmen-at-large, are to be considered)) Except for the initial staggering of terms, councilmembers shall serve for four-year terms of office. All councilmembers shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Councilmembers may be elected on a city-wide or town-wide basis, or from wards or districts, or any combination of these alternatives. 19 Candidates shall run for specific positions. Wards or districts shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards or districts shall be used as follows: (a) Only a resident of the ward or district may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward or district; and (b) only voters of the ward or district may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward or district. Voters of the entire city or town may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward or district, unless the city or town had prior to January 1, 1993, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward or district associated with the council positions. If a city or town had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward or district, then the city or town shall be authorized to continue to do so.

(3) When a ((municipality)) city or town has qualified for an increase in the number of ((councilmen)) councilmembers from five to seven by virtue of the next succeeding population determination made by the office of financial management ((after the majority of the voters thereof have approved operation under the council-manager plan)), two additional council positions shall be filled at the ((first)) next municipal general election ((when two additional councilmen are to be

elected, one of the two additional councilmen receiving)) with the person elected to one of the new council positions receiving the ((highest)) greatest number of votes ((shall be)) being elected for a four-year term of office and the person elected to the other additional ((councilman shall be)) council position being elected for a two-year term of office. The ((terms of the)) two additional ((councilmen)) <u>councilmembers</u> shall ((commence)) <u>assume office</u> immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135, but the term of office shall be computed from the first day of January after the year in which they are elected. Their successors shall be elected to four-year terms of office.

((4) In the event such population determination as provided in subsection (3) of this section requires an increase in the number of councilmen)) Prior to the election of the two new councilmembers, the city or town council shall fill the additional ((councilmanic)) positions by appointment not later than ((thirty)) forty-five days following the release of ((said)) the population determination, and ((the)) each appointee shall hold office only until ((the next regular city or town election at which a person shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. In the event such population determination results in a decrease in the number of councilmen, said decrease shall not take effect until the next regular city or town election: PROVIDED, That)) the new position is filled by election.

(4) When a city or town has qualified for a decrease in the number of councilmembers from seven to five by virtue of the next succeeding population determination made by the office of financial management, two council positions shall be eliminated at the next municipal general election if four council positions normally would be filled at that election, or one council position shall be eliminated at each of the next two succeeding municipal general elections if three council positions normally would be filled at the first municipal general election after the population determination. The council shall by ordinance indicate which, if any, of the remaining positions shall be elected at-large or from wards or districts.

(5) ((If a vacancy in the council occurs, the remaining members shall appoint a person to fill such office only until the next regular general municipal election at which a person shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term)) Vacancies on a council shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

1 **Sec. 19.** RCW 35.18.270 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 20 are each amended 2 to read as follows:

3 If the majority of the votes cast at a special election for 4 organization on the council-manager plan favor the plan, the city or town ((at its next regular election)) shall elect the council required 5 under the council-manager plan in number according to ((the)) its 6 population ((of the municipality: PROVIDED, That if the date of the 7 8 next municipal general election is more than one year from the date of 9 the election approving the council-manager plan, a special election shall be held to elect the councilmen; the newly elected councilmen 10 shall assume office immediately when they are qualified in accordance 11 12 with RCW 29.01.135 following the canvass of votes as certified and shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the next 13 14 general municipal election: PROVIDED, That such successor shall hold 15 office for staggered terms as provided in RCW 35.18.020 as now or hereafter amended. Councilmen shall take office at the time provided 16 by general law. Declarations of candidacy for city or town elective 17 positions under the council-manager plan for cities and towns shall be 18 19 filed with the county auditor as the case may be not more than fortyfive nor less than thirty days prior to said special election to elect 20 the members of the city council. Any candidate may file a written 21 declaration of withdrawal at any time within five days after the last 22 23 day for filing a declaration of candidacy. All names of candidates to 24 be voted upon shall be printed upon the ballot alphabetically in group under the designation of the title of the offices for which they are 25 26 candidates. There shall be no rotation of names)) at the next municipal general election. However, special elections shall be held 27 to nominate and elect the new city councilmembers at the next primary 28 29 and general election held in an even-numbered year if the next 30 municipal general election is more than one year after the date of the election at which the voters approved the council-manager plan. The 31 staggering of terms of office shall occur at the election when the new 32 councilmembers are elected, where the simple majority of the persons 33 34 elected as councilmembers receiving the greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held in an 35 odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of office if the election is 36 held in an even-numbered year, and the remainder of the persons elected 37 as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office if the 38 election is held in an odd-numbered year, or one-year terms of office 39

- 1 if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial
- 2 councilmembers shall take office immediately when they are elected and
- 3 gualified, but the lengths of their terms of office shall be calculated
- 4 from the first day in January in the year following the election.
- 5 **Sec. 20.** RCW 35.23.050 and 1965 c 7 s 35.23.050 are each amended 6 to read as follows:
- 7 All municipal elections held under the provisions of this chapter
- 8 shall be conducted according to the general election laws of this
- 9 state((, as far as practicable: PROVIDED, That any qualified voter of
- 10 such city, duly registered for the general county or state election
- 11 next preceding any municipal election, general or special, shall be
- 12 qualified to vote at such municipal election. No person shall be
- 13 qualified to vote at such election unless he is a qualified elector of
- 14 the county and has resided in such city for at least thirty days next
- 15 preceding such election)).
- 16 **Sec. 21.** RCW 35.23.240 and 1965 c 7 s 35.23.240 are each amended 17 to read as follows:
- 18 The city council may declare an office vacant: (1) If anyone
- 19 either elected or appointed to that office fails for ten days to
- 20 qualify as required by law or fails to enter upon ((his)) the duties of
- 21 that office at the time fixed by law or the orders of the city council,
- 22 ((his)) the office shall become vacant; or (2) if such an officer
- 23 ((absents himself)) who serves for compensation is absent from the city
- 24 without the consent of the city council for three consecutive weeks or
- 25 openly neglects or refuses to discharge ((his)) the duties((, the
- 26 council may declare his office vacant: PROVIDED, That this penalty for
- 27 absence from the city shall not apply to such officers as serve without
- 28 compensation.
- 29 If a vacancy occurs by reason of death, resignation, or otherwise
- 30 in the office of mayor or councilman, the city council shall fill the
- 31 vacancy until the next general municipal election)) of that office. In
- 32 <u>addition</u>, a vacancy in an elective office shall occur and shall be
- 33 filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.
- 34 If a vacancy occurs ((by reason of death, resignation, or
- 35 otherwise)) in any other office it shall be filled by appointment of
- 36 the mayor and confirmed by the council in the same manner as other
- 37 appointments are made.

Sec. 22. RCW 35.23.530 and 1965 c 7 s 35.23.530 are each amended 2 to read as follows:

At any time not within three months previous to an annual election the city council of a second class city may divide the city into wards, not exceeding six in all, or change the boundaries of existing wards. No change in the boundaries of wards shall affect the term of any ((councilman, but he)) councilmember, and councilmembers shall serve out ((his)) their terms in the wards of ((his)) their residences at the time of ((his election: PROVIDED, That if this results)) their elections. However, if these boundary changes result in one ward being represented by more ((councilmen)) councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled, those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of determining whether those positions are vacant.

17 The representation of each ward in the city council shall be in 18 proportion to the population as nearly as is practicable.

the wards did not exist.

((No person shall be eligible to the office of councilman unless he resides in the ward for which he is elected on the date of his election and removal of his residence from the ward for which he was elected renders his office vacant.))

Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards shall be used as follows: (1) Only a resident of the ward may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and (2) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, unless the city had prior to January 1, 1993, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a city had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue to do so. The elections for the remaining council position or council positions that are not associated with a ward shall be conducted as if

Sec. 23. RCW 35.24.050 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 22 are each amended 38 to read as follows:

General municipal elections in third class cities not operating under the commission form of government shall be held biennially in the odd-numbered years ((as provided in RCW 29.13.020)) and shall be subject to general election law.

 The terms of office of the mayor, city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That if the offices of city attorney, clerk, and treasurer are made appointive, the city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall not be appointed for a definite term: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the term of the elected treasurer shall not commence in the same biennium in which the term of the mayor commences, nor in which the terms of the city attorney and clerk commence if they are elected.

((A councilman at large shall be elected biennially for a two-year term and until his or her successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Of the other six councilmen, three shall be elected in each biennial general municipal election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume)) Council positions shall be numbered in each third class city so that council position seven has a two-year term of office and council positions one through six shall each have four-year terms of office. Each councilmember shall remain in office until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

In its discretion the council of a third class city may divide the city by ordinance into a convenient number of wards, not exceeding six, fix the boundaries of the wards, and change the ward boundaries from time to time and as provided in RCW 29.70.100. No change in the boundaries of any ward shall be made within one hundred twenty days next before the date of a general municipal election, nor within twenty months after the wards have been established or altered. However, if a boundary change results in one ward being represented by more councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled, those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of determining whether those positions are vacant. Whenever such city is so divided into wards, the city council shall designate by ordinance the number of councilmembers to be elected from each ward,

- apportioning the same in proportion to the population of the wards. 1 Council position seven shall not be associated with a ward and the 2 person elected to that position may reside anywhere in the city and 3 4 voters throughout the city may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for position seven, when a primary is necessary, and at a general 5 election to elect the person to council position seven. 6 additional territory is added to the city it may by act of the council, 7 be annexed to contiguous wards without affecting the right to 8 redistrict at the expiration of twenty months after last previous 9 division. Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. 10 Wards shall be used as follows: (1) Only a resident of the ward may be 11 a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and 12 (2) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate 13 14 candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, 15 unless the city had prior to January 1, 1993, limited the voting in the 16 general election for any or all council positions to only voters 17 residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a 18 19 city had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue 20 to do so. The elections for the remaining council position or council 21 positions that are not associated with a ward shall be conducted as if 22 23 the wards did not exist.
- 24 **Sec. 24.** RCW 35.24.060 and 1965 c 7 s 35.24.060 are each amended 25 to read as follows:
- All elections shall be held in accordance with the general election laws of the state ((insofar as the same are applicable and no person shall be entitled to vote at any election unless he shall be a qualified elector of the county and shall have resided in such city for at least thirty days next preceding such election)).
- 31 **Sec. 25.** RCW 35.24.100 and 1965 c 7 s 35.24.100 are each amended 32 to read as follows:
- ((In cities of)) The council of a third class city may declare a council position vacant if ((a member of the city council absents himself)) that councilmember is absent for three consecutive regular meetings ((thereof, unless by)) without the permission of the council((, his office may be declared vacant by the council.

- Vacancies in the city council or in the office of mayor shall be filled by majority vote of the council)). In addition, a vacancy in an elective office shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 4 22.12 RCW.
- Vacancies in offices other than that of mayor or city ((councilman)) councilmember shall be filled by appointment of the mayor.
- 8 ((If a vacancy occurs in an elective office the appointee shall 9 hold office only until the next regular election at which a person 10 shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.))
- If there is a temporary vacancy in an appointive office due to 12 illness, absence from the city or other temporary inability to act, the 13 mayor may appoint a temporary appointee to exercise the duties of the 14 office until the temporary disability of the incumbent is removed.
- 15 **Sec. 26.** RCW 35.24.290 and 1986 c 278 s 5 are each amended to read 16 as follows:
- 17 The city council of each third class city shall have power:
- 18 (1) To pass ordinances not in conflict with the Constitution and 19 laws of this state or of the United States;
- 20 (2) To prevent and regulate the running at large of any or all 21 domestic animals within the city limits or any part thereof and to 22 cause the impounding and sale of any such animals;
- 23 (3) To establish, build and repair bridges, to establish, lay out, 24 alter, keep open, open, widen, vacate, improve and repair streets, 25 sidewalks, alleys, squares and other public highways and places within the city, and to drain, sprinkle and light the same; to remove all 26 obstructions therefrom; to establish and reestablish the grades 27 thereof; to grade, plank, pave, macadamize, gravel and curb the same, 28 29 in whole or in part; to construct gutters, culverts, sidewalks and crosswalks therein or upon any part thereof; to cultivate and maintain 30 parking strips therein, and generally to manage and control all such 31 32 highways and places; to provide by local assessment for the leveling up and surfacing and oiling or otherwise treating for the laying of dust, 33 34 all streets within the city limits;
- 35 (4) To establish, construct and maintain drains and sewers, and 36 shall have power to compel all property owners on streets and alleys or 37 within two hundred feet thereof along which sewers shall have been 38 constructed to make proper connections therewith and to use the same

- for proper purposes, and in case the owners of the property on such streets and alleys or within two hundred feet thereof fail to make such connections within the time fixed by such council, it may cause such connections to be made and assess against the property served thereby the costs and expenses thereof;
- 6 (5) To provide fire engines and all other necessary or proper 7 apparatus for the prevention and extinguishment of fires;
- 8 (6) To impose and collect an annual license on every dog within the 9 limits of the city, to prohibit dogs running at large and to provide 10 for the killing of all dogs not duly licensed found at large;
- (7) To license, for the purposes of regulation and revenue, all and every kind of business authorized by law, and transacted and carried on in such city, and all shows, exhibitions and lawful games carried on therein and within one mile of the corporate limits thereof, to fix the rate of license tax upon the same, and to provide for the collection of the same by suit or otherwise;
- 17 (8) To improve rivers and streams flowing through such city, or adjoining the same; to widen, straighten and deepen the channel 18 19 thereof, and remove obstructions therefrom; to improve the water-front of the city, and to construct and maintain embankments and other works 20 to protect such city from overflow; to prevent the filling of the water 21 of any bay, except such filling over tide or shorelands as may be 22 provided for by order of the city council; to purify and prevent the 23 24 pollution of streams of water, lakes or other sources of supply, and 25 for this purpose shall have jurisdiction over all streams, lakes or 26 other sources of supply, both within and without the city limits. Such city shall have power to provide by ordinance and to enforce such 27 punishment or penalty as the city council may deem proper for the 28 offense of polluting or in any manner obstructing or interfering with 29 30 the water supply of such city or source thereof;
 - (9) To erect and maintain buildings for municipal purposes;

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(10) To permit, under such restrictions as it may deem proper, and 32 33 to grant franchises for, the laying of railroad tracks, and the running of cars propelled by electric, steam or other power thereon, and the 34 35 laying of gas and water pipes and steam mains and conduits for underground wires, and to permit the construction of tunnels or subways 36 37 in the public streets, and to construct and maintain and to permit the construction and maintenance of telegraph, telephone and electric lines 38 39 therein;

(11) ((In its discretion to divide the city by ordinance, into a convenient number of wards, not exceeding six, to fix the boundaries thereof, and to change the same from time to time: PROVIDED, That no change in the boundaries of any ward shall be made within sixty days next before the date of a general municipal election, nor within twenty months after the wards have been established or altered. Whenever such city is so divided into wards, the city council shall designate by ordinance the number of councilmen to be elected from each ward, apportioning the same in proportion to the population of the wards. Thereafter the councilmen so designated shall be elected by the qualified electors resident in such ward, or by general vote of the whole city as may be designated in such ordinance. When additional territory is added to the city it may by act of the council, be annexed to contiguous wards without affecting the right to redistrict at the expiration of twenty months after last previous division. The removal of a councilman from the ward for which he was elected shall create a vacancy in such office;

 (12))) To impose fines, penalties and forfeitures for any and all violations of ordinances, and for any breach or violation of any ordinance to fix the penalty by fine or imprisonment, or both, but no such fine shall exceed five thousand dollars nor the term of such imprisonment exceed the term of one year; or to provide that violations of ordinances constitute a civil violation subject to monetary penalty;

 $((\frac{13}{13}))$ (12) To establish fire limits, with proper regulations;

 $((\frac{14}{14}))$ (13) To establish and maintain a free public library;

 $((\frac{(15)}{)}))$ (14) To establish and regulate public markets and market places;

 $((\frac{16}{16}))$ (15) To punish the keepers and inmates and lessors of houses of ill fame, gamblers and keepers of gambling tables, patrons thereof or those found loitering about such houses and places;

((\(\frac{(17)}{17}\))) (16) To make all such ordinances, bylaws, rules, regulations and resolutions, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, as may be deemed expedient to maintain the peace, good government and welfare of the corporation and its trade, commerce and manufactures, and to do and perform any and all other acts and things necessary or proper to carry out the provisions of this chapter, and to enact and enforce within the limits of such city all other local, police, sanitary and other regulations as do not conflict with general laws;

- (((18))) To license steamers, boats and vessels used in any 1 bay or other watercourse in the city and to fix and collect such 2 license; to provide for the regulation of berths, landings, and 3 4 stations, and for the removing of steamboats, sail boats, sail vessels, 5 rafts, barges and other watercraft; to provide for the removal of obstructions to navigation and of structures dangerous to navigation or 6 to other property, in or adjoining the waterfront, except in 7 municipalities in counties in which there is a city of the first class. 8
- 9 **Sec. 27.** RCW 35.27.100 and 1965 c 7 s 35.27.100 are each amended to read as follows:
- All elections in towns shall be held in accordance with the general election laws of the state((, so far as the same may be applicable; and no person shall be entitled to vote at such election, unless he is a qualified elector of the county, and has resided in the town for at least thirty days next preceding the election)).
- 16 **Sec. 28.** RCW 35.27.140 and 1965 c 7 s 35.27.140 are each amended 17 to read as follows:
- ((If a member of)) The council of a town may declare a council 18 position vacant if that councilmember is absent from the town for three 19 consecutive <u>council</u> meetings ((unless by)) <u>without the</u> permission of 20 the council ((his office shall be declared vacant by the council. A 21 22 vacancy in the office of mayor and vacancies in the council shall be 23 filled by a majority vote of the council)). In addition, a vacancy in 24 an elective office shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. 25
- A vacancy in any other office shall be filled by appointment by the mayor. ((An appointee filling the vacancy in an elective office shall hold office only until the next general election at which time a person shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term except that the person appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of mayor shall serve for the unexpired term.))
- 32 **Sec. 29.** RCW 35.61.050 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 24 are each amended 33 to read as follows:
- At the same election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether a metropolitan park district is to be formed, five park commissioners shall be elected ((to hold office respectively for

the following terms: Where the election is held in an odd-numbered 1 year, one commissioner shall be elected to hold office for two years, 2 3 two shall be elected to hold office for four years, and two shall be 4 elected to hold office for six years. Where the election is held in an 5 even numbered year, one commissioner shall hold office for three years, two shall hold office for five years, and two shall hold office for 6 7 seven years)). The election of park commissioners shall be null and 8 void if the metropolitan park district is not created. Candidates 9 shall run for specific commission positions. No primary shall be held to nominate candidates. The person receiving the greatest number of 10 votes for each position shall be elected as a commissioner. The 11 staggering of the terms of office shall occur as follows: (1) The two 12 persons who are elected receiving the two greatest numbers of votes 13 shall be elected to six-year terms of office if the election is held in 14 15 an odd-numbered year or five-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the two persons who are elected 16 receiving the next two greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to 17 four-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered 18 19 year or three-year terms of office if the election is held in an evennumbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected shall be elected 20 to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered 21 year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-22 numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately 23 24 when they are elected and qualified, and for purposes of computing 25 their terms of office the terms shall be assumed to commence on the 26 first day of January ((of)) in the year <u>after</u> they are elected. ((The)27 term of each nominee for park commissioner shall be expressed on the ballot.)) Thereafter, all commissioners shall ((serve)) be elected to 28 six-year terms of office ((and)). All commissioners shall serve until 29 30 their respective successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Vacancies shall occur and shall be 31 filled ((by majority action of the remaining commissioners appointing 32 33 a voter to fill the remainder of the term of the vacant commissioner position)) as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. 34

35 **Sec. 30.** RCW 35A.01.070 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

Where used in this title with reference to procedures established by this title in regard to a change of plan or classification of

- 1 government, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the 2 context:
- 3 (1) "Classify" means a change from a city of the first, second, or 4 third class, or a town, to a code city.
- 5 (2) "Classification" means either that portion of the general law 6 under which a city or a town operates under Title 35 RCW as a first, 7 second, or third class city, <u>unclassified city</u>, or town, or otherwise 8 as a code city.
- 9 (3) "Organize" means to provide for officers after becoming a code 10 city, under the same general plan of government under which the city 11 operated prior to becoming a code city, pursuant to RCW 35A.02.055.
- 12 (4) "Organization" means the general plan of government under which 13 a city operates.
- (5) "Plan of government" means ((either the)) a mayor-council form of government under chapter 35A.12 RCW, council-manager form of government under chapter 35A.13 RCW, or a mayor-council, council-manager, or commission form of government in general that is retained by a noncharter code city as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, without regard to variations in the number of elective offices or whether officers are elective or appointive.
- 21 (6) "Reclassify" means changing from a code city to the 22 classification, if any, held by such a city immediately prior to 23 becoming a code city.
- (7) "Reclassification" means changing from city or town operating under Title 35 RCW to a city operating under Title 35A RCW, or vice versa; a change in classification.
- (8) "Reorganize" means changing the plan of government under which a city or town operates to a different general plan of government, for which an election of new officers under RCW 35A.02.050 is required. A city or town shall not be deemed to have reorganized simply by increasing or decreasing the number of members of its legislative body.
- 32 (9) "Reorganization" means a change in general plan of government 33 where an election of all new officers is required in order to 34 accomplish this change, but an increase or decrease in the number of 35 members of its legislative body shall not be deemed to constitute a 36 reorganization.
- 37 **Sec. 31.** RCW 35A.02.050 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 7 are each amended 38 to read as follows:

The first election of officers where required for reorganization 1 2 under a different general plan of government newly adopted in a manner provided in RCW 35A.02.020, 35A.02.030, 35A.06.030, or 35A.06.060, as 3 4 now or hereafter amended, shall be at the next general municipal election if one is to be held more than ninety days but not more than 5 one hundred and eighty days after certification of a reorganization 6 7 ordinance or resolution, or otherwise at a special election to be held 8 for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29.13.020. In the event that 9 the first election of officers ((as herein provided)) is to be held at a general municipal election, such election shall be preceded by a 10 primary election pursuant to RCW 29.21.010 and 29.13.070. In the event 11 that the first election of all officers ((as herein provided)) is to be 12 held at a special election rather than at a general election, and 13 notwithstanding any provisions of any other law to the contrary, such 14 15 special election shall be preceded by a primary election to be held on 16 a date authorized by RCW 29.13.010, and the persons nominated at that primary election shall be voted upon at the next succeeding special 17 election that is authorized by RCW 29.13.010: PROVIDED, That in the 18 19 event the ordinances calling for reclassification or reclassification and reorganization under the provisions of Title 35A RCW have been 20 filed with the secretary of state pursuant to RCW 35A.02.040 in an 21 even-numbered year at least ninety days prior to a state general 22 election then the election of new officers shall be concurrent with the 23 24 state primary and general election and shall be conducted as set forth 25 in ((chapter 35A.29 RCW)) general election law.

Upon reorganization, candidates for all offices shall file or be nominated for and successful candidates shall be elected to specific council positions((, and an)). The initial terms ((er)) of office for those elected at a first election of all officers ((to positions one and two for a five member council, or positions one through three for a seven member council, shall if the election occurs at a general municipal election be only until the second Monday in January first following the next general municipal election two years hence and if the election occurs at a special election, the duration of these initial terms shall be until the second Monday in January in the first even-numbered year that follows the next general municipal election. The duration of the initial term attaching to the remaining councilmanic positions shall be until the second Monday in January two years next thereafter, so that staggered regular four year terms will

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ultimately result. Any declarations of candidacy for any primary or other election held pursuant to this section shall be filed as provided in RCW 35A.29.110 as now or hereafter amended)) shall be as follows: (1) A simple majority of the persons who are elected as councilmembers receiving the greatest numbers of votes and the mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall be elected to four-year terms of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (2) the other persons who are elected as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or one-year terms of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The newly elected officials shall take office immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the length of their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day of January in the year following the election. Thereafter, each person elected as a councilmember or mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall be elected to a four-year term of office. Each councilmember and mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office as provided in RCW 29.04.170.

The former officers shall, upon the election and qualification of new officers, deliver to the proper officers of the reorganized noncharter code city all books of record, documents and papers in their possession belonging to such municipal corporation before the reorganization thereof. ((Officers elected at the first election of officers held pursuant to this amendatory act shall assume office as soon as the election returns have been certified.))

Sec. 32. RCW 35A.02.130 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.02.130 are each 29 amended to read as follows:

Any incorporated city or town governed under a plan of government authorized prior to the time this title takes effect may become a noncharter code city without changing such plan of government by the use of the petition-for-election or resolution-for-election procedures provided in RCW 35A.02.060 and 35A.02.070 to submit to the voters a proposal that such municipality adopt the classification of noncharter code city while retaining its existing plan of government, and upon a favorable vote on the proposal, such municipality shall be classified as a noncharter code city and retain its old plan of government, such

- 1 reclassification to be effective upon the filing of the record of such
- 2 election with the office of the secretary of state. Insofar as the
- 3 provisions of RCW 35A.02.100 and 35A.02.110 are applicable to an
- 4 election on such a reclassification proposal they shall apply to such
- 5 election.
- 6 **Sec. 33.** RCW 35A.06.020 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.06.020 are each 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 The classifications of municipalities which existed prior to the
- 9 time this title goes into effect--first class city, second class city,
- 10 third class ((and fourth class)) city, town, and unclassified city--and
- 11 the restrictions, limitations, duties, and obligations specifically
- 12 imposed by law upon such classes of cities and towns, shall have no
- 13 application to noncharter code cities, but every noncharter code city,
- 14 by adopting such classification, has elected to be governed by the
- 15 provisions of this title, with the powers granted hereby. However, any
- 16 code city that retains its old plan of government is subject to the
- 17 <u>laws applicable to that old plan of government until the city changes</u>
- 18 its plan of government to the provisions of either chapter 35A.12 or
- 19 <u>35A.13 RCW.</u>
- 20 **Sec. 34.** RCW 35A.06.030 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 14 are each amended 21 to read as follows:
- 22 By use of the resolution for election or petition for election
- 23 methods described in RCW 35A.06.040, any noncharter code city which has
- 24 operated for more than six consecutive years under one of the optional
- 25 plans of government authorized by this title, or for more than a
- 26 combined total of six consecutive years under a particular plan of
- 27 government both as a code city and under the same general plan under
- 28 Title 35 RCW immediately prior to becoming a code city, may abandon
- 29 such organization and may reorganize and adopt another plan of
- 30 government authorized for noncharter code cities, but only after having
- 31 been a noncharter code city for more than one year or a city after
- 32 operating for more than six consecutive years under a particular plan
- 33 of government as a noncharter code city ((or may reclassify and adopt
- 34 a plan of government authorized by the general law for municipalities
- 35 of the highest class for which the population of such city qualifies
- 36 it, or authorized for the class to which such city belonged immediately

1 prior to becoming a noncharter code city, if any)): PROVIDED, That 2 these limitations shall not apply to a city seeking to adopt a charter.

In reorganization under a different general plan of government as 3 4 a noncharter code city, officers shall all be elected as provided in When a noncharter code city adopts a plan of 5 RCW 35A.02.050. government other than those authorized under Title 35A RCW, such city 6 7 ceases to be governed under this optional municipal code and shall be classified as a city or town of the class selected in the proceeding 8 9 for adoption of such new plan, with the powers granted to such class 10 under the general law.

11 **Sec. 35.** RCW 35A.06.050 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 15 are each amended 12 to read as follows:

13 The proposal for abandonment of a plan of government as authorized 14 in RCW 35A.06.030 and for adoption of the plan named in the resolution 15 or petition shall be voted upon at the next general municipal election 16 if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or otherwise at a special election called for that purpose in accordance with RCW 17 18 29.13.020. The ballot title and statement of the proposition shall be 19 prepared by the city attorney as provided in RCW 29.27.060 and 35A.29.120((, as now or hereafter amended. If the plan proposed in the 20 petition is not a plan authorized for noncharter code cities by this 21 title, the ballot statement shall clearly set forth that adoption of 22 23 such plan by the voters would require abandonment of the classification 24 of noncharter code city and that government would be under the general law relating to cities of the class specified in the resolution or 25 petition. If the plan proposed in the petition is a plan authorized 26 for noncharter code cities the ballot statement shall clearly set forth 27 that adoption of such plan by the voters would not affect the 28 29 eligibility of the noncharter code city to be governed under this 30 optional municipal code)).

31 **Sec. 36.** RCW 35A.12.010 and 1985 c 106 s 1 are each amended to 32 read as follows:

The government of any noncharter code city or charter code city electing to adopt the mayor-council plan of government authorized by this chapter shall be vested in an elected mayor and an elected council. The council of a noncharter code city having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall consist of five members; when

there are twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, the council shall 1 consist of seven members: PROVIDED, That if the population of a city 2 after having become a code city decreases from twenty-five hundred or 3 4 more to less than twenty-five hundred, it shall continue to have a seven member council. If, after a city has become a mayor-council code 5 city, its population increases to twenty-five hundred or more 6 inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in such city may 7 8 increase from five to seven members upon the affirmative vote of a 9 majority of the existing council to increase the number of councilmanic 10 offices in the city. When the population of a mayor-council code city having five councilmanic offices increases to five thousand or more 11 inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in the city shall 12 increase from five to seven members. In the event of an increase in 13 the number of councilmanic offices, the city council shall, by majority 14 15 vote, pursuant to RCW 35A.12.050, appoint two persons to serve in these 16 offices until the next municipal general election, at which election 17 one person shall be elected for a two-year term and one person shall be elected for a four-year term. The number of inhabitants shall be 18 19 determined by the most recent official state or federal census or determination by the state office of financial management. A charter 20 adopted under the provisions of this title, incorporating the mayor-21 council plan of government set forth in this chapter, may provide for 22 an uneven number of ((councilmen)) councilmembers not exceeding eleven. 23 24

A noncharter code city of less than five thousand inhabitants which has elected the mayor-council plan of government and which has seven councilmanic offices may establish a five-member council in accordance with the following procedure. At least six months prior to a municipal general election, the city council shall adopt an ordinance providing for reduction in the number of councilmanic offices to five. The ordinance shall specify which two councilmanic offices, the terms of which expire at the next general election, are to be terminated. The ordinance shall provide for the renumbering of council positions and shall also provide for a two-year extension of the term of office of a retained councilmanic office, if necessary, in order to comply with RCW 35A.12.040.

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However, a noncharter code city that has retained its old mayorcouncil plan of government, as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, is subject to the laws applicable to that old plan of government. Sec. 37. RCW 35A.12.040 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 21 are each amended to read as follows:

3 Officers shall be elected at biennial municipal elections to be 4 conducted as provided in chapter 35A.29 RCW. The mayor and the ((councilmen)) councilmembers shall be elected for four-year terms of 5 office and until their successors are elected and qualified((: except 6 7 that at any first election three councilmen in cities having seven 8 councilmen, and two councilmen in cities having five councilmen, shall 9 be elected for two year terms and the remaining councilmen shall be 10 elected for four year terms)) and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. At any first election upon reorganization, councilmembers 11 shall be elected as provided in RCW 35A.02.050. 12 Thereafter the requisite number of ((councilmen)) councilmembers shall be elected 13 biennially as the terms of their predecessors expire and shall serve 14 15 for terms of four years. The positions to be filled on the city 16 council shall be designated by consecutive numbers and shall be dealt 17 with as separate offices for all election purposes((, as provided in RCW 35A.29.105. In any city which holds its first election under this 18 19 title in the calendar year 1970, candidates elected for two year terms 20 shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified at the general municipal election to be held in November, 1973 and 21 22 candidates elected for four year terms shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified at the general municipal election 23 24 to be held in November, 1975)). Election to positions on the council 25 shall be by majority vote from the city at large, unless provision is 26 made by charter or ordinance for election by wards. ((The city council 27 shall be the judge of the qualifications of its members and determine 28 contested elections of city officers, subject to review by certiorari 29 as provided by law.)) The mayor and ((councilmen)) councilmembers 30 shall qualify by taking an oath or affirmation of office and as may be provided by law, charter, or ordinance. 31

32 **Sec. 38.** RCW 35A.12.050 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.12.050 are each 33 amended to read as follows:

The office of a mayor or ((councilman)) councilmember shall become vacant if ((he)) the person who is elected or appointed to that position fails to qualify as provided by law ((or)), fails to enter upon ((his)) the duties of that office at the time fixed by law without a justifiable reason, ((upon his death, resignation, removal from

office by recall as provided by law, or when his office is forfeited)) or as provided in RCW 35A.12.060 or 42.12.010. A vacancy in the office of mayor or in the council shall be filled ((for the remainder of the unexpired term, if any, at the next regular municipal election but the council, or the remaining members thereof, by majority vote shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy until the person elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term takes office. If at any time the membership of the council is reduced below the number required for a quorum, the remaining members, nevertheless, by majority action may appoint additional members to fill the vacancies until persons are elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired terms. If, after thirty days have passed since the occurrence of a vacancy, the council are unable to agree upon a person to be appointed to fill a vacancy in the council, the mayor may make the appointment from among the persons nominated by members of the council)) as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

Sec. 39. RCW 35A.12.060 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.12.060 are each 17 amended to read as follows:

((A mayor or councilman shall forfeit his office, creating a vacancy, if he ceases to have the qualifications prescribed for such office by law, charter, or ordinance, or if he is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or an offense involving a violation of his oath of office. A councilman also shall forfeit his office if he)) In addition a council position shall become vacant if the councilmember fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the council without being excused by the council.

Sec. 40. RCW 35A.12.180 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.12.180 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) At any time not within three months previous to a municipal general election the council of a noncharter code city organized under this chapter may divide the city into wards or change the boundaries of existing wards. No change in the boundaries of wards shall affect the term of any ((councilman, but he)) councilmember, and councilmembers shall serve out ((his)) their terms in the wards of ((his)) their residences at the time of ((his)) their elections: PROVIDED, That if this results in one ward being represented by more ((councilmen)) councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards

where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of those positions being vacant. The representation of each ward in the city council shall be in proportion to the population as nearly as is practicable. ((When the city has been divided into wards no person shall be eligible to the office of councilman unless he resides in the ward for which he is elected on the date of his election, and removal of his residence from the ward for which he was elected renders his office vacant.))

Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards shall be used as follows: (a) Only a resident of the ward may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and (b) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, unless the city had prior to January 1, 1993, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a city had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue to do so.

(2) If on the effective date of this section or thereafter, a ward represented by more than one councilmember does not have at least one councilmember elected to office at each municipal election, then the council may change the terms of or renumber councilmember positions to be filled at the next general election if necessary, so that at least one councilmember within the ward is elected to office at each municipal general election, and the city complies with RCW 35A.12.040. The council shall determine by lot which councilmember positions shall be renumbered or terms changed prior to the date for filing declarations of candidacy for election to councilmember positions.

Sec. 41. RCW 35A.13.010 and 1987 c 3 s 16 are each amended to read 33 as follows:

The ((councilmen)) councilmembers shall be the only elective officers of a code city electing to adopt the council-manager plan of government authorized by this chapter, except where statutes provide for an elective municipal judge. The council shall appoint an officer whose title shall be "city manager" who shall be the chief executive

officer and head of the administrative branch of the city government. 1 The city manager shall be responsible to the council for the proper 2 3 administration of all affairs of the code city. The council of a 4 noncharter code city having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall consist of five members; when there are twenty-five hundred or 5 more inhabitants the council shall consist of seven members: PROVIDED, 6 7 That if the population of a city after having become a code city 8 decreases from twenty-five hundred or more to less than twenty-five 9 hundred, it shall continue to have a seven member council. If, after 10 a city has become a council-manager code city its population increases to twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic 11 offices in such city may increase from five to seven members upon the 12 13 affirmative vote of a majority of the existing council to increase the number of councilmanic offices in the city. When the population of a 14 15 council-manager code city having five councilmanic offices increases to 16 five thousand or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices 17 in the city shall increase from five to seven members. In the event of an increase in the number of councilmanic offices, the city council 18 19 shall, by majority vote, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.020, appoint two persons to serve in these offices until the next municipal general 20 election, at which election one person shall be elected for a two-year 21 term and one person shall be elected for a four-year term. The number 22 of inhabitants shall be determined by the most recent official state or 23 24 federal census or determination by the state office of financial 25 management. A charter adopted under the provisions of this title, 26 incorporating the council-manager plan of government set forth in this 27 may provide for an uneven number of ((councilmen)) chapter councilmembers not exceeding eleven. 28

A noncharter code city of less than five thousand inhabitants which has elected the council-manager plan of government and which has seven councilmanic offices may establish a five-member council in accordance with the following procedure. At least six months prior to a municipal general election, the city council shall adopt an ordinance providing for reduction in the number of councilmanic offices to five. 34 ordinance shall specify which two councilmanic offices, the terms of which expire at the next general election, are to be terminated. 36 37 ordinance shall provide for the renumbering of council positions and 38 shall also provide for a two-year extension of the term of office of a

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- 1 retained councilmanic office, if necessary, in order to comply with RCW
- 2 35A.12.040.
- 3 However, a noncharter code city that has retained its old council-
- 4 manager plan of government, as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, is subject
- 5 to the laws applicable to that old plan of government.
- 6 **Sec. 42.** RCW 35A.13.020 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 155 s 1 are each 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 In council-manager code cities, eligibility for election to the
- 9 council, the manner of electing councilmen, the numbering of council
- 10 positions, the terms of councilmen, the occurrence and the filling of
- 11 vacancies, the grounds for forfeiture of office, and appointment of a
- 12 mayor pro tempore or deputy mayor or councilman pro tempore shall be
- 13 governed by the corresponding provisions of RCW 35A.12.030, 35A.12.040,
- 14 35A.12.050, 35A.12.060, and 35A.12.065 relating to the council of a
- 15 code city organized under the mayor-council plan((: PROVIDED, That)),
- 16 <u>except that</u> in council-manager cities where all council positions are
- 17 at-large positions, the city council may, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.033,
- 18 provide that the person elected to council position one ((on or after
- 19 September 8, 1975,)) shall be the council chairman and shall carry out
- 20 the duties prescribed by RCW 35A.13.030((, as now or hereafter
- 21 amended)).
- 22 Sec. 43. RCW 35A.14.060 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.14.060 are each
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- 24 An annexation election shall be held in accordance with ((chapter
- 25 35A.29 RCW of this title)) general election law and only registered
- 26 voters who have resided in the area proposed to be annexed for ninety
- 27 days immediately preceding the election shall be allowed to vote
- 28 therein.
- 29 **Sec. 44.** RCW 35A.14.070 and 1979 ex.s. c 124 s 4 are each amended
- 30 to read as follows:
- Notice of an annexation election shall particularly describe the
- 32 boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed, as the same may have
- 33 been modified by the boundary review board or the county annexation
- 34 review board, state the objects of the election as prayed in the
- 35 petition or as stated in the resolution, and require the voters to cast
- 36 ballots which shall contain the words "For Annexation" or "Against

- 1 Annexation" or words equivalent thereto, or contain the words "For
- 2 Annexation and Adoption of Proposed Zoning Regulation", and "Against
- 3 Annexation and Adoption of Proposed Zoning Regulation", or words
- 4 equivalent thereto in case the simultaneous adoption of a proposed
- 5 zoning regulation is proposed, and in case the assumption of all or a
- 6 portion of indebtedness is proposed, shall contain an appropriate,
- 7 separate proposition for or against the portion of indebtedness that
- 8 the city requires to be assumed. The notice shall be posted for at
- 9 least two weeks prior to the date of election in four public places
- 10 within the area proposed to be annexed and published at least once a
- 11 week for two weeks prior to the date of election in a newspaper of
- 12 general circulation within the limits of the territory proposed to be
- 13 annexed. Such notice shall be in addition to the notice required by
- 14 ((RCW 35A.29.140)) general election law.
- 15 **Sec. 45.** RCW 35A.15.040 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.15.040 are each
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- 17 ((The election shall be conducted and the returns canvassed as
- 18 provided in chapter 35A.29 RCW.)) Ballot titles shall be prepared by
- 19 the city as provided in RCW 35A.29.120 and shall contain the words "For
- 20 Dissolution" and "Against Dissolution", and shall contain on separate
- 21 lines, alphabetically, the names of candidates for receiver. If a
- 22 majority of the votes cast on the proposition are for dissolution, the
- 23 municipal corporation shall be dissolved upon certification of the
- 24 election results to the office of the secretary of state.
- 25 **Sec. 46.** RCW 35A.16.030 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.16.030 are each
- 26 amended to read as follows:
- 27 ((The election returns shall be canvassed as provided in RCW
- 28 35A.29.070 and)) If three-fifths of the votes cast on the proposition
- 29 favor the reduction of the corporate limits, the ((legislative body, by
- 30 an order entered on its minutes, shall direct the clerk to)) county
- 31 <u>auditor shall</u> make and transmit to the office of the secretary of state
- 32 a certified abstract of the vote.
- 33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 47.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.29
- 34 RCW to read as follows:
- 35 Elections for code cities shall comply with general election law.

Sec. 48. RCW 36.69.020 and 1969 c 26 s 2 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

The formation of a park and recreation district shall be initiated by a petition designating the boundaries thereof by metes and bounds, or by describing the land to be included therein by townships, ranges and legal subdivisions. Such petition shall set forth the object of the district and state that it will be conducive to the public welfare and convenience, and that it will be a benefit to the area therein. Such petition shall be signed by not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters residing within the area so described. ((No person signing the petition may withdraw his name therefrom after filing.)) The name of a person who has signed the petition may not be withdrawn from the petition after the petition has been filed.

The petition shall be filed with the auditor of the county within which the proposed district is located, accompanied by an obligation signed by two or more petitioners, agreeing to pay the cost of the publication of the notice provided for in RCW 36.69.040. The county auditor shall, within thirty days from the date of filing the petition, examine the signatures and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof((; and for that purpose shall have access to all registration books or records in the possession of the registration officers of the election precincts included, in whole or in part, within the proposed district. Such books and records shall be prima facie evidence of the truth of the certificate)).

If the petition is found to contain a sufficient number of signatures of qualified persons, the auditor shall transmit it, together with ((his)) a certificate of sufficiency attached thereto, to the county $((commissioners\ who))$ legislative authority, which shall by resolution entered upon ((their)) its minutes((-,)) receive it and fix a day and hour when ((they)) the legislative authority will publicly hear the petition, as provided in RCW 36.69.040.

Sec. 49. RCW 36.69.070 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 28 are each amended 33 to read as follows:

((All elections pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 29.13 RCW for district elections.)) A ballot proposition authorizing the formation of the proposed park and recreation district shall be submitted to the voters of the proposed district for their approval or rejection at the next

general state election occurring sixty or more days after the county 1 legislative authority fixes the boundaries of the proposed district. 2 Notices of the election for the formation of the park and recreation 3 4 district shall state generally and briefly the purpose thereof and shall give the boundaries of the proposed district((, define the 5 election precincts, designate the polling place of each, give the names 6 7 of the five nominated park and recreation commissioner candidates of the proposed district,)) and name the day of the election and the hours 8 9 during which the polls will be open. The proposition to be submitted 10 to the voters shall be stated in such manner that the voters may indicate yes or no upon the proposition of forming the proposed park 11 and recreation district. ((The ballot shall be so arranged that voters 12 13 may vote for the five nominated candidates or may write in the names of other candidates.)) 14

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The initial park and recreation commissioners shall be elected at the same election, but this election shall be null and void if the district is not authorized to be formed. No primary shall be held to nominate candidates for the initial commissioner positions. Candidates shall run for specific commission positions. A special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person who receives the greatest number of votes for each commission position shall be elected to that position. The three persons who are elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or three-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The other two persons who are elected shall be elected to twoyear terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or one-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately upon being elected and qualified, but the length of such terms shall be computed from the first day of January in the year following this election.

33 **Sec. 50.** RCW 36.69.080 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 29 are each amended to read as follows:

If a majority of all votes cast upon the proposition favors the formation of the district, $((\{the\}))$ the county legislative authority shall $((\{t,t\}))$, by resolution, declare the territory organized as a park and recreation district under the designated name $((\{theretofore\}))$

- designated, and shall declare the candidate from each subdivision 1 receiving the highest number of votes for park and recreation 2 3 commissioner the duly elected first park and recreation commissioner of 4 the subdivision of the district. These initial park and recreation commissioners shall take office immediately upon their election and 5 qualification and hold office until their successors are elected and 6 7 qualified and assume office as provided in RCW 36.69.090 as now or 8 hereafter amended)).
- 9 **Sec. 51.** RCW 36.69.090 and 1987 c 53 s 1 are each amended to read 10 as follows:
- A park and recreation district shall be governed by a board of five commissioners. Except for the initial commissioners, all commissioners shall be elected to staggered four-year terms of office and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Candidates shall run for specific commissioner positions.
- 17 Elections for park and recreation district commissioners shall be 18 held biennially in conjunction with the general election in each odd-19 numbered year. ((Residence anywhere within the district shall qualify an elector for any position on the commission after the initial 20 election.)) Elections shall be held in accordance with the provisions 21 22 of Title 29 RCW dealing with general elections. ((All commissioners 23 shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume 24 office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. At the first election 25 following the formation of the district, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall serve for terms of four years, and 26 27 the three candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall 28 serve for two years. Thereafter all commissioners shall be elected for four year terms: PROVIDED, That if there would otherwise be two 29 commissioners elected at the November 1987 general election, the 30 candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall serve a four-year 31 term, and the commissioner receiving the second highest number of votes 32 33 shall serve a two-year term.))
- 34 **Sec. 52.** RCW 36.69.100 and 1963 c 4 s 36.69.100 are each amended 35 to read as follows:

Vacancies on the board of park and recreation commissioners shall occur and shall be filled ((by a majority vote of the remaining commissioners)) as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

Sec. 53. RCW 36.69.440 and 1979 ex.s. c 11 s 3 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

- (1) If the petition filed under RCW 36.69.430 is found to contain a sufficient number of signatures, the legislative authority of each county shall set a time for a hearing on the petition for the formation of a park and recreation district as prescribed in RCW 36.69.040.
- (2) At the public hearing the legislative authority ((for each authority)) for each county shall fix the boundaries for that portion of the proposed park and recreation district that lies within the county as provided in RCW 36.69.050. Each county shall notify the other county or counties of the determination of the boundaries within ten days.
 - (3) If the territories created by the county legislative authorities are not contiguous, a joint park and recreation district shall not be formed. If the territories are contiguous, the county containing the portion of the proposed joint district having the larger population shall determine the name of the proposed joint district.
 - (4) ((If the proposed district encompasses portions of two counties, the county containing the portion of the district having the larger population shall divide the territory into three subdivisions and shall name three resident electors as prescribed by RCW 36.69.060. The county containing the territory having the smaller population shall divide that territory into two subdivisions and name two resident electors.
- 28 (5) If the proposed district encompasses portions of more than two 29 counties, the district shall be divided into five subdivisions and 30 resident electors shall be named as follows:
 - The number of subdivisions and resident electors to be established by each county shall reflect the proportion of population within each county portion of the proposed district in relation to the total population of the proposed district, provided that each county shall designate one subdivision and one resident elector.
- 36 (6)) The proposition for the formation of the proposed joint park 37 and recreation district shall be submitted to the voters of the

- 1 district at the next general election, which election shall be 2 conducted as required by RCW 36.69.070 and 36.69.080.
- 3 **Sec. 54.** RCW 36.105.010 and 1991 c 363 s 99 are each amended to 4 read as follows:
- Voters of the unincorporated areas of the state are authorized to 6 establish community councils as provided in this chapter.
- 7 It is the purpose of this chapter to provide voters unincorporated areas in counties with a population of over thirty 8 9 thousand that are made up entirely of islands and in counties with a population of over one million with direct input on the planning and 10 11 zoning of their community by establishing a governmental mechanism to 12 adopt proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances that are consistent with an overall guide and 13 14 framework adopted by the county legislative authority. In addition, it
- 17 **Sec. 55.** RCW 36.105.020 and 1991 c 363 s 100 are each amended to 18 read as follows:

forums for the discussion of local issues.

is the purpose of this chapter to have community councils serve as

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- 19 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 20 this section apply throughout this chapter.
- 21 (1) "Community" means a portion of the unincorporated area for 22 which a community council has been established and which is located in 23 a county with a population of over thirty thousand that is made up 24 entirely of islands and in counties with a population of over one 25 million.
- 26 (2) "Community comprehensive plan" means a comprehensive plan 27 adopted by a community council.
- (3) "Community council" means the governing body established under this chapter to adopt community comprehensive plans and community 30 zoning ordinances for a community.
- 31 (4) "Community zoning ordinances" means the zoning ordinances 32 adopted by a community council to implement a community comprehensive 33 plan.
- 34 **Sec. 56.** RCW 36.105.030 and 1991 c 363 s 101 are each amended to 35 read as follows:

A community for which a community council is created may include only unincorporated territory located in a single county with a population of over thirty thousand that is made up entirely of islands and in counties with a population of over one million and not included within a city or town. A community council must have at least one thousand persons residing within the community when the community council is created or, where the community only includes an entire island, at least three hundred persons must reside on the island when the community council is created. Any portion of such a community that is annexed by a city or town, or is incorporated as a city or town, shall be removed from the community upon the effective date of the annexation or the official date of the incorporation.

Sec. 57. RCW 52.14.010 and 1985 c 330 s 2 are each amended to read 14 as follows:

The affairs of the district shall be managed by a board of fire commissioners composed of three ((resident electors of)) registered voters residing in the district except as provided in RCW 52.14.015 and 52.14.020. Each member shall each receive fifty dollars per day or portion thereof, not to exceed four thousand eight hundred dollars per year, for attendance at board meetings and for performance of other services in behalf of the district.

In addition, they shall receive necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the board or when otherwise engaged in district business, and shall be entitled to receive the same insurance available to all ((firemen)) fire fighters of the district: PROVIDED, That the premiums for such insurance, except liability insurance, shall be paid by the individual commissioners who elect to receive it.

Any commissioner may waive all or any portion of his or her compensation payable under this section as to any month or months during his or her term of office, by a written waiver filed with the secretary as provided in this section. The waiver, to be effective, must be filed any time after the commissioner's election and prior to the date on which ((said)) the compensation would otherwise be paid. The waiver shall specify the month or period of months for which it is made.

The board shall fix the compensation to be paid the secretary and all other agents and employees of the district. The board may, by resolution adopted by unanimous vote, authorize any of its members to

- serve as volunteer ((firemen)) fire fighters without compensation. A 1 commissioner actually serving as a volunteer ((fireman)) fire fighter 2 may enjoy the rights and benefits of a volunteer ((fireman)) fire 3 4 fighter. ((The first commissioners shall take office immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135 and shall serve until after 5 the next general election for the selection of commissioners and until 6 7 their successors have been elected and have qualified and have assumed 8 office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.))
- 9 **Sec. 58.** RCW 52.14.015 and 1990 c 259 s 14 are each amended to 10 read as follows:

In the event a three member board of commissioners of any fire 11 12 protection district determines by resolution ((and approves by unanimous vote of the board)) that it would be in the best interest of 13 14 the district to increase the number of commissioners from three to 15 five, or in the event the board is presented with a petition signed by ten percent of the registered voters resident within the district who 16 voted in the last general municipal election calling for such an 17 18 increase in the number of commissioners of the district, the board 19 shall submit a resolution to the county legislative authority or authorities of the county or counties in which the district is located 20 requesting that an election be held. Upon receipt of the resolution, 21 the legislative authority or authorities of the county or counties 22 23 shall call a special election to be held within the fire protection 24 district at which election the following proposition shall be submitted 25 to the voters substantially as follows:

26 Shall the board of commissioners of county fire 27 protection district no. be increased from three members to 28 five members?

If the fire protection district is located in more than a single county, this proposition shall indicate the name of the district.

If the proposition receives a majority approval at the election, the board of commissioners of the fire protection district shall be

- 1 increased to five members. The two additional members shall be 2 appointed in the same manner as provided in RCW 52.14.020.
- **Sec. 59.** RCW 52.14.030 and 1984 c 230 s 31 are each amended to 4 read as follows:
- ((The polling places for district elections shall be those of the county voting precincts which include any of the territory within the fire protection districts. District elections)) The polling places for a fire protection district election may be located inside or outside the boundaries of the district ((and)), as determined by the auditor of the county in which the fire protection district is located, and the elections of the fire protection district shall not be held to be irregular or void on that account.
- **Sec. 60.** RCW 52.14.050 and 1989 c 63 s 21 are each amended to read 14 as follows:

- ((In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of fire commissioner, the vacancy shall, within sixty days, be filled by appointment of a resident elector of the district by a vote of the remaining fire commissioners. If the board of commissioners fails to fill the vacancy within the sixty day period, the county legislative authority of the county in which all, or the largest portion, of the district is located shall make the appointment. If the number of vacancies is such that there is not a majority of the full number of commissioners in office as fixed by law, the county legislative authority of the county in which all, or the largest portion, of the district is located shall appoint someone to fill each vacancy, within thirty days of each vacancy, that is sufficient to create a majority as prescribed by law.
- An appointee shall serve ad interim until a successor has been elected and qualified at the next general election as provided in chapter 29.21 RCW. A person who is so elected shall take office immediately after he or she is qualified and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.))
- Vacancies on a board of fire commissioners shall occur as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. In addition, if a fire commissioner is absent from the district for three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings unless by permission of the board, the office shall be declared vacant by the board of commissioners ((and the vacancy shall be filled as

provided for in this section)). However, such an action shall not be taken unless the commissioner is notified by mail after two consecutive unexcused absences that the position will be declared vacant if the commissioner is absent without being excused from the next regularly scheduled meeting. Vacancies ((additionally shall occur)) on a board of fire commissioners shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

7 **Sec. 61.** RCW 52.14.060 and 1989 c 63 s 22 are each amended to read 8 as follows:

9 The initial three members of the board of fire commissioners shall be elected at the same election as when the ballot proposition is 10 submitted to the voters authorizing the creation of the fire protection 11 If the district is not authorized to be created, the 12 district. 13 election of the initial fire commissioners shall be null and void. If created, the 14 district is authorized to be initial commissioners shall take office immediately when qualified. Candidates 15 16 shall file for each of the three separate fire commissioner positions. Elections shall be held as provided in chapter 29.21 RCW, with the 17 18 county auditor opening up a special filing period as provided in RCW ((29.21.360 and 29.21.370)) 29.15.170 and 29.15.180, as if there were 19 a vacancy. The ((candidate for each position)) person who receives the 20 greatest number of votes for each position shall be elected to that 21 ((If the election is held in an odd-numbered year, the 22 23 winning candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall hold 24 office for a term of six years, the winning candidate receiving the 25 next highest number of votes shall hold office for a term of four years, and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes 26 27 shall serve for a term of two years. If the election were held in an even numbered year, the winning candidate receiving the greatest number 28 29 of votes shall hold office for a term of five years, the winning candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall hold office 30 for a term of three years, and the winning candidate receiving the next 31 highest number of votes shall hold office for a term of one year.)) The 32 33 terms of office of the initial fire commissioners shall be staggered as follows: (1) The person who is elected receiving the greatest number 34 of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office if the election 35 36 is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term of office if the 37 election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the person who is 38 elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to

- 1 <u>a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered</u>
- 2 year or a three-year term of office if the election is held in an even-
- 3 numbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected shall be elected
- 4 to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered
- 5 year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-
- 6 numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately
- 7 when elected and qualified and their terms of office ((of the initially
- 8 elected fire commissioners)) shall be calculated from the first day of
- 9 January in the year following their election.

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- 10 The term of office of each subsequent commissioner shall be six
- 11 years. Each commissioner shall serve until a successor is elected and
- 12 qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.
- 13 **Sec. 62.** RCW 53.12.140 and 1959 c 17 s 9 are each amended to read 14 as follows:
- 15 A vacancy in the office of port commissioner shall occur ((by
- 16 death, resignation, removal, conviction of a felony,)) as provided in
- 17 chapter 42.12 RCW or by nonattendance at meetings of the port
- 18 commission for a period of sixty days unless excused by the port
- 19 commission((, by any statutory disqualification, or by any permanent
- 20 disability preventing the proper discharge of his duty)). A vacancy on
- 21 <u>a port commission shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.</u>
- 22 **Sec. 63.** RCW 54.08.060 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 36 are each amended 23 to read as follows:
- Whenever a proposition for the formation of a public utility
- 25 district is to be submitted to voters in any county, the county
- 26 legislative authority may by resolution call a special election, and at
- 27 the request of petitioners for the formation of such district contained
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- 28 in the petition shall do so and shall provide for holding the same at
- 29 the earliest practicable time. If the boundaries of the proposed

district embrace an area less than the entire county, such election

- 31 shall be confined to the area so included. The notice of such election
- 32 shall state the boundaries of the proposed district and the object of
- 33 such election; in other respects, such election shall be held and
- 34 called in the same manner as provided by law for the holding and
- 35 calling of general elections: PROVIDED, That notice thereof shall be
- 36 given for not less than ten days nor more than thirty days prior to
- 37 such special election. In submitting the ((said)) proposition to the

1 voters for their approval or rejection, such proposition shall be 2 expressed on the ballots in substantially the following terms:

3	Public Util:	ity District	No.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	YES
4	Public Util:	ity District	No.		NO

At the same special election on the proposition to form a public 5 6 utility district, there shall also be an election for three public utility district commissioners((: PROVIDED, That)). However, the 7 election of such commissioners shall be null and void if the 8 proposition to form the public utility district does not receive 9 approval by a majority of the voters voting on the proposition. 10 11 ((Nomination for and election of public utility district commissioners 12 shall conform with the provisions of RCW 54.12.010 as now or hereafter 13 amended, except for the day of such election and the term of office of the original commissioners.)) No primary shall be held. A special 14 filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 15 29.15.180. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for the 16 17 commissioner of each commissioner district shall be elected as the commissioner of that district. Commissioner districts shall be 18 established as provided in RCW 54.12.010. The terms of the initial 19 commissioners shall be staggered as follows: (1) The person who is 20 elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a 21 22 six-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year or a five-year term if the election is held in an odd-numbered 23 24 year; (2) the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election 25 is held in an even-numbered year or a three-year term of office if the 26 27 election is held in an odd-numbered year; and (3) the other person who 28 is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year or a one-year term of office 29 if the election is held in an odd-numbered year. The commissioners 30 first to be elected at such special election shall ((hold office from 31 32 the first day of the month following the commissioners' election for the terms as specified in this section which terms shall be computed 33 34 from the first day in January next following the election. If such 35 special election was held in an even-numbered year, the commissioners residing in commissioner district number one shall hold office for the 36 37 term of six years, the commissioner residing in commissioner district

number two shall hold office for the term of four years, and the commissioner residing in commissioner district number three shall hold office for the term of two years. If such special election was held in an odd-numbered year, the commissioner residing in commissioner district number one shall hold office for the term of five years, the commissioner residing in commissioner district number two shall hold office for the term of three years, and the commissioner residing in commissioner district number three shall hold office for the term of one year)) assume office immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the length of their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day in January in the year following their elections.

The term "general election" as used herein means biennial general elections at which state and county officers in a noncharter county are elected.

Sec. 64. RCW 54.12.010 and 1990 c 59 s 109 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

The powers of the public utility district shall be exercised through a commission consisting of three members in three commissioner districts, and five members in five commissioner districts.

When the public utility district is ((coextensive with the limits of such county)) county-wide and the county has three county legislative authority districts, then, at the first election of commissioners and until any change shall have been made in the boundaries of public utility district commissioner districts, one public utility district commissioner shall be chosen from each of the three county ((commissioner)) legislative authority districts ((of the county in which the public utility district is located if the county is not operating under a "Home Rule" charter)). When the public utility

district comprises only a portion of the county, with boundaries 1 established in accordance with chapter 54.08 RCW, or when the public 2 utility district is ((located in a county operating under a "Home Rule" 3 4 charter)) county-wide and the county does not have three county legislative authority districts, three public utility district 5 commissioner districts, numbered consecutively, ((having)) each with 6 7 approximately equal population and ((boundaries,)) following ((ward 8 and)) precinct lines, as far as practicable, shall be described in the 9 petition for the formation of the public utility district, which shall 10 be subject to appropriate change by the county legislative authority if and when ((they)) it changes the boundaries of the proposed public 11 utility district, and one commissioner shall be elected ((from each of 12 said)) as a commissioner of each of the public utility district 13 14 commissioner districts. ((In all five commissioner districts an 15 additional commissioner at large shall be chosen from each of the two at large districts. No person shall be eligible to be elected to the 16 office of public utility district commissioner for a particular 17 district commissioner district unless he is a registered voter of the 18 19 public utility district commissioner district or at large district from which he is elected.)) Commissioner districts shall be used as follows: 20 (1) Only a registered voter who resides in a commissioner district may 21 be a candidate for, or hold office as, a commissioner of the 22 commissioner district; and (2) only voters of a commissioner district 23 24 may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a commissioner of the commissioner district. Voters of the entire public utility district 25 26 may vote at a general election to elect a person as a commissioner of the commissioner district. 27

((Except as otherwise provided,)) The term of office of each public utility district commissioner other than the commissioners at large shall be six years, and the term of each commissioner at large shall be four years. Each term shall be computed in accordance with RCW 29.04.170 following the commissioner's election. ((One commissioner at large and one commissioner from a commissioner district shall be elected at each general election held in an even numbered year for the term of four years and six years respectively. All candidates shall be voted upon by the entire public utility district.

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When a public utility district is formed, three public utility district commissioners shall be elected at the same election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether such public

utility district shall be formed. If the general election adopting the proposition to create the public utility district was held in an even-numbered year, the commissioner residing in commissioner district number one shall hold office for the term of six years; the commissioner residing in commissioner district number two shall hold office for the term of four years; and the commissioner residing in commissioner district number three shall hold office for the term of two years. If the general election adopting the proposition to create the public utility district was held in an odd-numbered year, the commissioner residing in commissioner district number one shall hold office for the term of five years, the commissioner in district two shall hold office for the term of three years, and the commissioner in district three shall hold office for the term of one year. The commissioners first to be elected as above provided shall hold office from the first day of the month following the commissioners' election and their respective terms of office shall be computed from the first day of January next following the election.))

All public utility district commissioners shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and have qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. ((A filing for nomination for public utility district commissioner shall be accompanied by a petition signed by one hundred registered voters of the public utility district which shall be certified by the county auditor to contain the required number of registered voters, and shall otherwise be filed in accord with the requirements of Title 29 RCW. At the time of filing such nominating petition, the person so nominated shall execute and file a declaration of candidacy subject to the provisions of Title 29 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. The petition and each page of the petition shall state whether the nomination is for a commissioner from a particular commissioner district or for a commissioner at large and shall state the districts; otherwise it shall be void.))

 A vacancy in the office of public utility district commissioner shall occur as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW or by ((death, resignation, removal, conviction of a felony,)) nonattendance at meetings of the public utility district commission for a period of sixty days unless excused by the public utility district commission((, by any statutory disqualification, or by any permanent disability preventing the proper discharge of his duty. In the event of a vacancy in said office, such vacancy shall be filled at the next general

election held in an even-numbered year, the vacancy in the interim to 1 2 be filled by appointment by the remaining commissioners. If more than one vacancy exists at the same time in a three commissioner district, 3 4 or more than two in a five commissioner district, a special election 5 shall be called by the county canvassing board upon the request of the remainder, or, that failing, by the county election board, such 6 7 election to be held not more than forty days after the occurring of 8 such vacancies.

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A majority of the persons holding the office of public utility district commissioner at any time shall constitute a quorum of the commission for the transaction of business, and the concurrence of a majority of the persons holding such office at the time shall be necessary and shall be sufficient for the passage of any resolution, but no business shall be transacted, except in usual and ordinary course, unless there are in office at least a majority of the full number of commissioners fixed by law)). Vacancies on a board of public utility district commissioners shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

The boundaries of the public utility district ((commissioners')) commissioner districts may be changed only by the public utility district commission, and shall be examined every ten years to determine substantial equality of population in accordance with chapter 29.70 RCW, but ((said)) the boundaries shall not be changed oftener than once in four years, and only when all members of the commission are present. Whenever territory is added to a public utility district under RCW 54.04.035, the boundaries of the public utility ((commissioners')) commissioner districts shall be changed to include such additional territory. The proposed change of the boundaries of the public utility district ((commissioners')) commissioner district must be made by resolution and after public hearing. Notice of the time of a public hearing thereon shall be published for two weeks prior thereto. Upon a referendum petition signed by ten percent of the qualified voters of the public utility district being filed with the county auditor, the county legislative authority shall submit such proposed change of boundaries to the voters of the public utility district for their approval or rejection. Such petition must be filed within ninety days after the adoption of resolution of the proposed action. The validity of ((said)) the petition shall be governed by the provisions of chapter

Sec. 65. RCW 54.40.070 and 1977 ex.s. c 36 s 7 are each amended to 1 2 read as follows:

3 Within thirty days after the public utility district commission 4 shall divide the district into two at large districts, the county legislative authority shall call a special election, to be held at the 5 next scheduled special election called pursuant to RCW 29.13.010, or 6 7 not more than ninety days after such call, at which time the initial 8 commissioners to such at large districts shall be elected ((-,)). No 9 primary shall be held and a special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person receiving the 10 greatest number of votes for each position shall be elected. 11

The person who is elected receiving the ((largest)) greatest number of votes ((to serve for four years)) shall be elected to a four-year term of office, and the other person ((receiving the next largest number of votes to serve an initial term of two years)) who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year, or the person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a three-year term of office, and the other person who is elected shall be elected to a oneyear term of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered year. The length of these terms of office shall be calculated from the first day in January in the year following their elections.

The newly elected commissioners shall assume office immediately 23 24 after being elected and qualified and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance 25 with RCW 29.04.170. Each successor shall be elected to a four-year 26 term of office.

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Sec. 66. RCW 56.12.020 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 38 are each amended 28 29 to read as follows:

30 At the election held to form or reorganize a <u>sewer</u> district, ((there shall be elected three commissioners who shall assume office 31 immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135 to hold 32 33 office for terms of two, four, and six years respectively, and until 34 their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in 35 accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

The term of each nominee shall be expressed on the ballot and shall be computed from the first day of January next following if the initial election of the sewer district commissioners was in a general district

election as provided in RCW 29.13.020, or from the first day of January 1 following the first general election for sewer districts after its 2 creation if the initial election was on a date other than a general 3 4 district election. Thereafter, every two years there shall be elected a commissioner for a term of six years and until his or her successor 5 is elected and qualified, at the general election held in the odd-6 numbered years, as provided in RCW 29.13.020, and conducted by the 7 8 county auditor and the returns shall be canvassed by the county canvassing board of election returns: PROVIDED, That each such 9 commissioner shall assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170)) 10 three sewer district commissioners shall be elected. The election of 11 12 sewer district commissioners shall be null and void if the ballot proposition to form or reorganize the sewer district is not approved. 13 14 Candidates shall run for one of three separate commissioner positions. A special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 15 and 29.15.180. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for 16 each position shall be elected to that position. 17

The newly elected sewer district commissioners shall assume office immediately when they are elected and qualified. Staggering of the terms of office for the new sewer district commissioners shall be accomplished as follows: (1) The person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The terms of office shall be calculated from the first day of January in the year following the election.

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Thereafter commissioners shall be elected to six-year terms of 33 34 office. Commissioners shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

36 Sec. 67. RCW 56.12.030 and 1990 c 259 s 24 are each amended to read as follows: 37

(((1) Nominations for the first board of commissioners to be elected at the election for the formation of the sewer district shall be by petition of fifty registered voters or ten percent of the registered voters of the district who voted in the last general municipal election, whichever is the smaller. The petition shall be filed in the auditor's office of the county in which the district is located at least forty-five days before the election. Thereafter candidates for the office of sewer commissioner shall file declarations of candidacy and their election shall be conducted as provided by the general elections laws. A vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the remaining commissioner or commissioners until the next regular election for commissioners: PROVIDED, That if there are two vacancies on the board, one vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the remaining commissioner and the one remaining vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the then two commissioners and the appointed commissioners shall serve until the next regular election for commissioners. If the vacancy or vacancies remain unfilled within six months of its or their occurrence, the county legislative authority in which the district is located shall make the necessary appointment or appointments. If there is a vacancy of the entire board a new board may be appointed by the county legislative authority. Any person residing in the district who is at the time of election a registered voter may vote at any election held in the sewer district.

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38 39 (2) Subsection (1) of this section notwithstanding,)) The board of commissioners of any sewer district may ((provide by majority vote that subsequent commissioners be elected from commissioner districts)) adopt a resolution providing that each subsequent commissioner be elected as a commissioner of a commissioner district within the district. If the board exercises this option, it shall divide the district into ((three)) a number of commissioner districts ((of)) equal in number to the number of commissioners on the board, each with approximately equal population following current precinct and district boundaries as far as practicable. ((Thereafter, candidates shall be nominated and one candidate shall be elected from each commissioner district by the registered voters of the commissioner district.

(3) All expense of elections for the formation or reorganization of a sewer district shall be paid by the county in which the election is held and the expenditure is hereby declared to be for a county purpose, and the money paid for that purpose shall be repaid to the county by

- 1 the district if formed or reorganized.)) Commissioner districts shall
- 2 be used as follows: (1) Only a registered voter who resides in a
- 3 <u>commissioner district may be a candidate for, or serve as, a</u>
- 4 commissioner of the commissioner district; and (2) only voters of a
- 5 commissioner district may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for
- 6 <u>a commissioner of the commissioner district</u>. Voters of the entire
- 7 sewer district may vote at a general election to elect a person as a
- 8 <u>commissioner of the commissioner district</u>. <u>Commissioner districts</u>
- 9 shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW.
- 10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 68.** A new section is added to chapter 56.12 RCW
- 11 to read as follows:
- 12 Sewer district elections shall conform with general election laws.
- 13 Vacancies on a board of sewer commissioners shall occur and shall
- 14 be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.
- 15 **Sec. 69.** RCW 57.02.050 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 17 s 5 are each
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- 17 Whenever the boundaries or proposed boundaries of a water district
- 18 include or are proposed to include by means of formation, annexation,
- 19 consolidation, or merger (including merger with a sewer district)
- 20 territory in more than one county, all duties delegated by Title 57 RCW
- 21 to officers of the county in which the district is located shall be
- 22 delegated to the officers of the county in which the largest land area
- 23 of the district is located, except that elections shall be conducted
- 24 pursuant to ((RCW 57.02.060, as now existing or hereafter amended))
- 25 general election law, actions subject to review and approval under RCW
- 26 57.02.040 and 56.02.070 shall be reviewed and approved only by the
- 27 officers or boards in the county in which such actions are proposed to
- 28 occur, verification of electors' signatures shall be conducted by the
- 29 county election officer of the county in which such signators reside,
- 30 and comprehensive plan review and approval or rejection by the
- 31 respective county legislative authorities under RCW 57.16.010 shall be
- 32 limited to that part of such plans within the respective counties.
- 33 **Sec. 70.** RCW 57.12.020 and 1990 c 259 s 30 are each amended to
- 34 read as follows:
- 35 ((Nominations for the first board of commissioners to be elected at
- 36 the election for the formation of the water district shall be by

petition of at least ten percent of the registered voters of the district who voted in the last general municipal election, filed in the auditor's office of the county in which the district is located, at least forty-five days prior to the election. Thereafter, candidates for the office of water commissioners shall file declarations of candidacy and their election shall be conducted as provided by the general election laws.))

A vacancy ((or vacancies)) on the board shall occur and shall be filled ((by appointment by the remaining commissioner or commissioners until the next regular election for commissioners: PROVIDED, That if there are two vacancies on the board, one vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the remaining commissioner and the one remaining vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the then two commissioners and the appointed commissioners shall serve until the next regular election for commissioners. If the vacancy or vacancies remain unfilled within six months of its or their occurrence, the county legislative authority in which the district is located shall make the necessary appointment or appointments. If there is a vacancy of the entire board a new board may be appointed by the county legislative authority.

20 Any person residing in the district who is a registered voter under 21 the laws of the state may vote at any district election)) as provided 22 in chapter 42.12 RCW.

Sec. 71. RCW 57.12.030 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 17 s 14 are each 24 amended to read as follows:

((The general laws of the state of Washington governing the registration of voters for a general or a special city election shall govern the registration of voters for elections held under this chapter. The manner of holding any general or special election for said)) Water district elections shall be held in accordance with the general election laws of this state. ((All elections in a water district shall be conducted under RCW 57.02.060. All expenses of elections for a water district shall be paid for out of the funds of the water district: PROVIDED, That if the voters fail to approve the formation of a water district, the expenses of the formation election shall be paid by each county in which the proposed district is located, in proportion to the number of registered voters in the proposed district residing in each county.))

Except as in this section otherwise provided, the term of office of each water district commissioner shall be six years, such term to be computed from the first day of January following the election, and ((one commissioner shall be elected at each biennial general election, as provided in RCW 29.13.020, for the term of six years and until his or her successor is)) commissioners shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume((s)) office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. ((All candidates shall be voted upon by the entire water district.))

Three water district commissioners shall be elected at the same election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether such water district shall be formed. ((The commissioner elected in commissioner position number one shall hold office for the term of six years; the commissioner elected in commissioner position number two shall hold office for the term of four years; and the commissioner elected in commissioner position number three shall hold office for the term of two years: PROVIDED, That the members of the first commission shall take office immediately upon their election and qualification. The terms of all commissioners first to be elected shall also include the time intervening between the date that the results of their election are declared in the canvass of returns thereof and the first day of January following the next general district election as provided in RCW 29.13.020.)) The election of water district commissioners shall be null and void if the ballot proposition to form the water district is approved. Each candidate shall run for one of three separate commissioner positions. A special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for each position shall be elected to that position.

The newly elected water district commissioners shall assume office immediately when they are elected and qualified. Staggering of the terms of office for the new water district commissioners shall be accomplished as follows: (1) The person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of office if the election is

- 1 held in an even-numbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected
- 2 shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held
- 3 <u>in an odd-numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is</u>
- 4 <u>held in an even-numbered year. The terms of office shall be calculated</u>
- 5 from the first day of January after the election.
- 6 Thereafter, commissioners shall be elected to six-year terms of
- 7 office. Commissioners shall serve until their successors are elected
- 8 and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.
- 9 **Sec. 72.** RCW 57.12.039 and 1986 c 41 s 2 are each amended to read 10 as follows:
- Notwithstanding RCW 57.12.020 and 57.12.030, the board of
- 12 commissioners may provide by majority vote that subsequent
- 13 commissioners be elected from commissioner districts within the
- 14 district. If the board exercises this option, it shall divide the
- 15 district into three commissioner districts of approximately equal
- 16 population following current precinct and district boundaries.
- 17 ((Thereafter, candidates shall be nominated and one candidate shall be
- 18 elected from each commissioner district by the electors of the
- 19 commissioner district.))
- 20 <u>Commissioner districts shall be used as follows: (1) Only a</u>
- 21 registered voter who resides in a commissioner district may be a
- 22 candidate for, or serve as, a commissioner of the commissioner
- 23 district; and (2) only voters of a commissioner district may vote at a
- 24 primary to nominate candidates for a commissioner of the commissioner
- 25 <u>district</u>. Voters of the entire water district may vote at a general
- 26 <u>election to elect a person as a commissioner of the commissioner</u>
- 27 <u>district</u>. Commissioner districts shall be redrawn as provided in
- 28 <u>chapter 29.70 RCW.</u>
- 29 **Sec. 73.** RCW 57.32.022 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 17 s 31 are each
- 30 amended to read as follows:
- 31 The respective boards of water commissioners of the consolidating
- 32 districts shall certify the agreement to the county election officer of
- 33 each county in which the districts are located. A special election
- 34 shall be called by the county election officer ((under RCW 57.02.060))
- 35 for the purpose of submitting to the voters of each of the
- 36 consolidating districts the proposition of whether or not the several
- 37 districts shall be consolidated into one water district. The

- 1 proposition shall give the title of the proposed consolidated district.
- 2 Notice of the election shall be given and the election conducted in
- 3 accordance with the general election laws.

the voters of the district.

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- 4 **Sec. 74.** RCW 57.32.023 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 17 s 32 are each 5 amended to read as follows:
- If at the election a majority of the voters in each of the 6 7 consolidating districts vote in favor of the consolidation, the county 8 canvassing board shall so declare in its canvass ((under RCW 9 57.02.060)) and the return of such election shall be made within ten days after the date thereof. Upon the return the consolidation shall 10 be effective and the consolidating districts shall cease to exist and 11 12 shall then be and become a new water district and municipal corporation of the state of Washington. The name of such new water district shall 13 14 be "Water District No.", which shall be the name appearing on the 15 The district shall have all and every power, right, and privilege possessed by other water districts of the state of 16 The district may issue revenue bonds to pay for the 17 Washington. 18 construction of any additions and betterments set forth in the comprehensive plan of water supply contained in the agreement for 19 consolidation and any future additions and betterments to the 20
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 75.** A new section is added to chapter 68.52 RCW to read as follows:

comprehensive plan of water supply, as its board of water commissioners

shall by resolution adopt, without submitting a proposition therefor to

- 26 Cemetery district elections shall conform with general election 27 laws.
- A vacancy on a board of cemetery district commissioners shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.
- 30 **Sec. 76.** RCW 68.52.100 and 1947 c 6 s 2 are each amended to read 31 as follows:
- For the purpose of forming a cemetery district, a petition designating the boundaries of the proposed district by metes and bounds
- 34 or describing the lands to be included in the proposed district by
- 35 government townships, ranges and legal subdivisions, signed by not less
- 36 than fifteen percent of the (($\frac{qualified}{}$)) registered (($\frac{electors}{}$, who

are property owners or are purchasing property under contract and who 1 are resident)) voters who reside within the boundaries of the proposed 2 district, setting forth the object of the formation of such district 3 and stating that the establishment thereof will be conducive to the 4 public welfare and convenience, shall be filed with the county auditor 5 of the county within which the proposed district is located, 6 accompanied by an obligation signed by two or more petitioners agreeing 7 8 to pay the cost of publishing the notice hereinafter provided for. The 9 county auditor shall, within thirty days from the date of filing of 10 such petition, examine the signatures and certify to the sufficiency or 11 insufficiency thereof ((and for such purpose shall have access to 12 registration books and records in possession of the registration 13 officers of the election precincts included in whole or in part within 14 the boundaries of the proposed district and to the tax rolls and other 15 records in the offices of the county assessor and county treasurer. No person having)). The name of any person who signed a petition shall 16 17 not be ((allowed to withdraw his name therefrom)) withdrawn from the petition after it has been filed with the county auditor. 18 19 petition is found to contain a sufficient number of valid signatures 20 ((of qualified persons)), the county auditor shall transmit it, with ((his)) <u>a</u> certificate of sufficiency attached, to the ((board of))21 county ((commissioners)) legislative authority, which shall thereupon, 22 23 by resolution entered upon its minutes, receive the same and fix a day and hour when it will publicly hear ((said)) the petition. 24

25 **Sec. 77.** RCW 68.52.140 and 1982 c 60 s 2 are each amended to read 26 as follows:

The ((board of)) county ((commissioners)) legislative authority 27 shall have full authority to hear and determine the petition, and if it 28 29 finds that the formation of the district will be conducive to the public welfare and convenience, it shall by resolution so declare, 30 otherwise it shall deny the petition. If the ((board)) county 31 legislative authority finds in favor of the formation of the district, 32 it shall designate the name and number of the district, fix the 33 34 boundaries thereof, and cause an election to be held therein for the purpose of determining whether or not the district shall be organized 35 36 under the provisions of this chapter, and for the purpose of electing its first cemetery district commissioners. ((The board shall, prior to 37 calling the said election, name three registered resident electors who 38

- 1 are property owners or are purchasing property under contract within
- 2 the boundaries of the district as candidates for election as cemetery
- 3 district commissioners. These electors are exempt from the
- 4 requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW.)) At the same election three
- 5 <u>cemetery district commissioners shall be elected, but the election of</u>
- 6 the commissioners shall be null and void if the district is not
- 7 created. No primary shall be held. A special filing period shall be
- 8 opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. Candidates shall
- 9 run for specific commissioner positions. The person receiving the
- 10 greatest number of votes for each commissioner position shall be
- 11 <u>elected to that commissioner position</u>. The terms of office of the
- 12 <u>initial commissioners shall be as provided in RCW 68.52.220.</u>
- 13 **Sec. 78.** RCW 68.52.160 and 1947 c 6 s 8 are each amended to read
- 14 as follows:
- The ballot for ((said)) the election shall be in such form as may
- 16 be convenient but shall present the propositions substantially as
- 17 follows:
- 18 <u>"</u>.....(insert county name)..... cemetery district No.(insert
- 19 number).....
- 20Yes.....
- 21(insert county name)..... cemetery district No.(insert
- 22 number).....
- 23No.....<u>"</u>
- 24 ((and shall specify the names of the candidates nominated for election
- 25 as the first cemetery district commissioners with appropriate space to
- 26 vote for the same.))
- 27 **Sec. 79.** RCW 68.52.220 and 1990 c 259 s 33 are each amended to
- 28 read as follows:
- 29 The affairs of the district shall be managed by a board of cemetery
- 30 district commissioners composed of three ((qualified registered voters
- 31 of the district)) members. Members of the board shall receive no
- 32 compensation for their services, but shall receive expenses necessarily
- 33 incurred in attending meetings of the board or when otherwise engaged
- 34 in district business. The board shall fix the compensation to be paid
- 35 the secretary and other employees of the district. ((The first three

cemetery district commissioners shall serve only until the first day in 1 2 January following the next general election, provided such election occurs thirty or more days after the formation of the district, and 3 4 until their successors have been elected and qualified and have assumed 5 office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. At the next general district election, as provided in RCW 29.13.020, provided it occurs thirty or 6 more days after the formation of the district, three members of the 7 board of cemetery commissioners shall be chosen. They and all 8 subsequently elected cemetery commissioners shall have the same 9 qualifications as required of the first three cemetery commissioners 10 and)) Cemetery district commissioners and candidates for cemetery 11 12 district commissioner are exempt from the requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW. ((The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall serve 13 14 for a term of six years beginning on the first day in January 15 following; the candidate receiving the next higher number of votes shall serve for a term of four years from the date; and the candidate 16 receiving the next higher number of votes shall serve for a term of two 17 years from the date. Upon the expiration of their respective terms, 18 19 all cemetery commissioners shall be elected for terms of six years to begin on the first day in January next succeeding the day of election 20 and shall serve until their successors have been elected and qualified 21 and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Elections shall be 22 23 called, noticed, conducted and canvassed and in the same manner and by 24 the same officials as provided for general county elections.)) The initial cemetery district commissioners shall assume office 25

The initial cemetery district commissioners shall assume office immediately upon their election and qualification. Staggering of terms of office shall be accomplished as follows: (1) The person elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial commissioners shall assume office immediately after they are elected

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and qualified but their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day of January after the election.

Thereafter, commissioners shall be elected to six-year terms of office. Commissioners shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office as provided in RCW 29.04.170.

The polling places for a cemetery district election ((shall be those of the county voting precincts which include any of the territory within the cemetery district, and)) may be located <u>inside or</u> outside the boundaries of the district, <u>as determined by the auditor of the county in which the cemetery district is located</u>, and no such election shall be held irregular or void on that account.

Sec. 80. RCW 70.44.040 and 1990 c 259 s 39 are each amended to 13 read as follows:

14 <u>(1)</u> The provisions of Title 29 RCW relating to elections shall govern public hospital districts, except ((that: (1))) as provided in this chapter.

A public hospital district shall be created when the ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the district is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters of the proposed district voting on the proposition and the total vote cast upon the proposition ((to form a hospital district shall)) exceeds forty percent of the total number of votes cast in the ((precincts comprising the)) proposed district at the preceding state general ((and county)) election((; and (2) hospital district commissioners shall hold office for the term of six years and until their successors are elected and qualified, each term to commence on the first day in January following the election)).

At the election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether a district shall be formed, three commissioners shall be elected ((to hold office, respectively, for the terms of two, four, and six years. All candidates shall be voted upon by the entire district, and the candidate residing in commissioner district No. 1 receiving the highest number of votes in the hospital district shall hold office for the term of six years; the candidate residing in commissioner district No. 2 receiving the highest number of votes in the hospital district shall hold office for the term of four years; and the candidate residing in commissioner district No. 3 receiving the highest number of votes in the hospital district shall hold office for the term of two years. The first commissioners to be elected shall take office

immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135. Each term 1 of the initial commissioners shall date from the time above specified 2 following the organizational election, but shall also include the 3 4 period intervening between the organizational election and the first 5 day of January following the next district general election: PROVIDED, That in public hospital districts encompassing portions of more than 6 7 one county, the total vote cast upon the proposition to form the 8 district shall exceed forty percent of the total number of votes cast 9 in each portion of each county lying within the proposed district at the next preceding general county election. The portion of the 10 proposed district located within each county shall constitute a 11 12 separate commissioner district. There shall be three district commissioners whose terms shall be six years. Each district shall be 13 14 designated by the name of the county in which it is located. All candidates for commissioners shall be voted upon by the entire 15 district. Not more than one commissioner shall reside in any one 16 17 district: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the event there are only two districts then two commissioners may reside in one district. The term 18 19 of each commissioner shall commence on the first day in January in each year following his election. At the election at which the proposition 20 is submitted to the voters as to whether a district shall be formed, 21 three commissioners shall be elected to hold office, respectively, for 22 23 the terms of two, four, and six years. The candidate receiving the 24 highest number of votes within the district, as constituted by the election, shall serve a term of six years; the candidate receiving the 25 26 next highest number of votes shall hold office for a term of four years; and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes 27 shall hold office for a term of two years: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the 28 29 holding of each such term of office shall be subject to the residential 30 requirements for district commissioners hereinbefore set forth in this section)). The election of the initial commissioners shall be null and 31 void if the district is not authorized to be created. 32 33

No primary shall be held. A special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for the commissioner of each commissioner district shall be elected as the commissioner of that district. The terms of office of the initial public hospital district commissioners shall be staggered as follows: (a) The person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of

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office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (b) the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (c) the other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the length of such terms shall be computed from the first day of January in the year following this election. The term of office of each successor shall be six years. Each commissioner shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

(2) Commissioner districts shall be used as follows: (a) Only a registered voter who resides in a commissioner district may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a commissioner of the commissioner district; and (b) only voters of a commissioner district may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a commissioner of the commissioner district. Voters of the entire public hospital district may vote at a general election to elect a person as a commissioner of the commissioner district.

If the proposed public hospital district is county-wide, and the county has three county legislative authority districts, the county legislative authority districts shall be used as public hospital district commissioner districts. In all other instances the county auditor of the county in which all or the largest portion of the proposed public hospital district is located shall draw the initial three public hospital district commissioner districts, each of which shall constitute as nearly as possible one-third of the total population of the proposed public hospital district and number the districts one, two, and three. Each of the three commissioner positions shall be numbered one through three and associated with the district of the same number.

The public hospital district commissioners may redraw commissioner districts, if the public hospital district has boundaries that are not coterminous with the boundaries of a county with three county legislative authority districts, so that each district comprises as

- 1 nearly as possible one-third of the total population of the public
- 2 hospital district. The commissioners of a public hospital district
- 3 that is not coterminous with the boundaries of a county that has three
- 4 county legislative authority districts shall redraw hospital district
- 5 <u>commissioner boundaries as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW.</u>
- 6 **Sec. 81.** RCW 70.44.045 and 1982 c 84 s 13 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
- 8 A vacancy in the office of commissioner shall occur as provided in
- 9 <u>chapter 42.12 RCW or</u> by ((death, resignation, removal, conviction of
- 10 felony,)) nonattendance at meetings of the commission for sixty days,
- 11 unless excused by the commission((, by any statutory disqualification,
- 12 by any permanent disability preventing the proper discharge of his
- 13 duty, or by creation of positions pursuant to RCW 70.44.051, et seq)).
- 14 A vacancy ((or vacancies on the board)) shall be filled ((by
- 15 appointment by the remaining commissioner or commissioners until the
- 16 next regular election for commissioners as provided by RCW 70.44.040:
- 17 PROVIDED, That if there is only one remaining commissioner, one vacancy
- 18 shall be filled by appointment by the remaining commissioner and the
- 19 remaining vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the
- 20 then two commissioners and the appointed commissioners shall serve
- 21 until the next regular election for commissioners: PROVIDED FURTHER,
- 22 That if there is a vacancy of the entire board, a new board may be
- 23 appointed by the board of county commissioners or county council)) as
- 24 provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.
- 25 **Sec. 82.** RCW 70.44.053 and 1967 c 77 s 2 are each amended to read
- 26 as follows:
- 27 At any general or special election which may be called for that
- 28 purpose the board of public hospital district commissioners may, or on
- 29 petition of ten percent of the ((electors)) voters based on the total
- 30 vote cast in the last <u>district</u> general election in the <u>public hospital</u>
- 31 district shall, by resolution, submit to the voters of the district the
- 32 proposition increasing the number of commissioners to ((any number
- 33 authorized in RCW 70.44.051)) either five or seven members. The
- 34 petition or resolution shall specify whether it is proposed to increase
- 35 the number of commissioners to either five or seven members.
- 36 If the voters of the district approve the ballot proposition
- 37 authorizing the increase in the number of commissioners to either five

or seven members, the board of commissioners shall redistrict the 1 public hospital district into the appropriate number of commissioner 2 districts. The additional commissioners shall be elected from 3 4 commissioner districts in which no existing commissioner resides at the next state general election occurring one hundred twenty days or more 5 after the date of the election at which the voters of the district 6 7 approved the ballot proposition authorizing the increase in the number of commissioners. If needed, special filing periods shall be 8 9 authorized as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180 for qualified persons to file for the vacant office. A primary shall be held to 10 nominate candidates if sufficient time exists to hold a primary and 11 12 more than two candidates file for the vacant office. Otherwise, a primary shall not be held and the candidate receiving the greatest 13 14 number of votes for each position shall be elected. Except for the initial terms of office, persons elected to each of these additional 15 commissioner positions shall be elected to a six-year term. 16

Where the number of commissioners is increased from three to five, the initial terms of the two new commissioners shall be staggered so that the person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a five-year term if the election is held in an even-numbered year, and the other person elected shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The newly elected commissioners shall assume office as provided in RCW 29.04.170.

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Where the number of commissioners is increased from three or five 27 to seven, the county auditor of the county in which all or the largest 28 29 portion of the hospital district is located shall cause the initial 30 terms of office of the additional commissioners to be staggered over the next three district general elections so that two commissioners 31 would normally be elected at the first district general election 32 following the election where the additional commissioners are elected, 33 34 two commissioners are normally elected at the second district general election after the election of the additional commissioners, and three 35 commissioners are normally elected at the third district general 36 election following the election of the additional commissioners. The 37 newly elected commissioners shall assume office as provided in RCW 38 39 29.04.170.

- 1 Sec. 83. RCW 70.77.177 and 1984 c 249 s 6 are each amended to read
- 2 as follows:
- 3 "Local fire official" means the chief of a local fire department or
- 4 ((fire protection district,)) a chief fire protection officer or such
- 5 other person as may be designated by the governing body of a city((τ))
- 6 or county((, or district)) to act as a local fire official under this
- 7 chapter.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 84.** A new section is added to chapter 70.77 RCW
- 9 to read as follows:
- 10 "City" means any city or town.
- 11 **Sec. 85.** RCW 70.77.265 and 1984 c 249 s 12 are each amended to
- 12 read as follows:
- The local fire official receiving an application for a permit under
- 14 RCW 70.77.260(1) shall investigate the application and submit a report
- 15 of findings and a recommendation for or against the issuance of the
- 16 permit, together with reasons, to the governing body of the $city((\tau))$
- 17 <u>or</u> county((, or fire protection district)).
- 18 **Sec. 86.** RCW 70.77.270 and 1984 c 249 s 13 are each amended to
- 19 read as follows:
- 20 The governing body of a city((-,)) or county((-, or fire protection
- 21 district)) may grant or deny an application for a permit under RCW
- 22 70.77.260(1). The governing body may place reasonable conditions on
- 23 any permit it issues.
- 24 Sec. 87. RCW 70.77.280 and 1984 c 249 s 14 are each amended to
- 25 read as follows:
- The local fire official receiving an application for a permit under
- 27 RCW 70.77.260(2) for a public display of fireworks shall investigate
- 28 whether the character and location of the display as proposed would be
- 29 hazardous to property or dangerous to any person. Based on the
- 30 investigation, the official shall submit a report of findings and a
- 31 recommendation for or against the issuance of the permit, together with
- 32 reasons, to the governing body of the city((-,)) or county((-, or fire))
- 33 protection district)). The governing body may grant or deny the
- 34 application and may place reasonable conditions on any permit it
- 35 issues.

- 1 **Sec. 88.** RCW 70.77.355 and 1986 c 266 s 105 are each amended to 2 read as follows:
- 3 (1) Any adult person may secure a general license from the director 4 of community development, through the director of fire protection, for 5 the public display of fireworks within the state of Washington. general license is subject to the provisions of this chapter relative 6 7 to the securing of local permits for the public display of fireworks in 8 any city((-,)) or county((, or fire protection district)), except that 9 in lieu of filing the bond or certificate of public liability insurance 10 with the appropriate local official under RCW 70.77.260 as required in RCW 70.77.285, the same bond or certificate shall be filed with the 11 director of community development, through the director of fire 12 protection. The bond or certificate of insurance for a general license 13 in addition shall provide that: (a) The insurer will not cancel the 14 15 insured's coverage without fifteen days prior written notice to the director of community development, through the director of fire 16 protection; (b) the duly licensed pyrotechnic operator required by law 17 to supervise and discharge the public display, acting either as an 18 19 employee of the insured or as an independent contractor and the state 20 of Washington, its officers, agents, employees, and servants are included as additional insureds, but only insofar as any operations 21 22 under contract are concerned; and (c) the state is not responsible for 23 any premium or assessments on the policy.
 - (2) The director of community development, through the director of fire protection, may issue such general licenses. The holder of a general license shall file a certificate from the director of community development, through the director of fire protection, evidencing the license with any application for a local permit for the public display of fireworks under RCW 70.77.260.

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- 30 **Sec. 89.** RCW 70.77.450 and 1986 c 266 s 113 are each amended to 31 read as follows:
- The director of community development, through the director of fire protection, may make an examination of the books and records of any licensee, or other person relative to fireworks, and may visit and inspect the premises of any licensee he may deem at any time necessary for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter. The licensee, owner, lessee, manager, or operator of any such building or premises shall permit the director of community development, through

- 1 the director of fire protection, his or her deputies((, his or her)) or
- 2 salaried assistants ((and the chief of any city or county fire
- 3 department or fire protection district)), the local fire official, and
- 4 their authorized representatives to enter and inspect the premises at
- 5 the time and for the purpose stated in this section.
- 6 **Sec. 90.** RCW 70.95A.030 and 1973 c 132 s 4 are each amended to 7 read as follows:
- 8 In addition to any other powers which it may now have, each 9 municipality shall have the following powers:
- 10 (1) To acquire, whether by construction, purchase, devise, gift or 11 lease, or any one or more of such methods, one or more facilities which
- 12 shall be located within, or partially within the municipality. Each
- 13 <u>facility must have a separate value to the municipality beyond its</u>
- 14 potential use to an entity that has leased the facility from the
- 15 municipality;
- 16 (2) To lease, lease with option to purchase, sell or sell by 17 installment sale, any or all of the facilities upon such terms and 18 conditions as the governing body may deem advisable but which shall
- 19 ((at least)) more than fully reimburse the municipality for all debt
- 20 service on any bonds issued to finance the facilities and for all costs
- 21 incurred by the municipality in financing and operating the facilities
- 22 and as shall not conflict with the provisions of this chapter. The
- 23 <u>term of each lease must be less than the term of the municipality's</u>
- 24 ownership in the leased facility by at least one month;
- 25 (3) To issue revenue bonds for the purpose of defraying the cost of
- 26 acquiring or improving any facility or facilities or refunding any
- 27 bonds issued for such purpose and to secure the payment of such bonds
- 28 as provided in this chapter. Revenue bonds may be issued in one or
- 29 more series or issues where deemed advisable, and each such series or
- 30 issue may have the same or different maturity dates, interest rates,
- 31 priorities on revenues available for payment of such bonds and
- 32 priorities on security available for assuring payment thereof, and such
- 33 other differing terms and conditions as are deemed necessary and are
- 34 not in conflict with the provisions of this chapter.
- 35 **Sec. 91.** RCW 70.95A.060 and 1973 c 132 s 7 are each amended to
- 36 read as follows:

Prior to the issuance of the bonds authorized by this chapter, the 1 2 municipality may lease the facilities to a lessee or lessees under an agreement providing for payment to the municipality of such rentals as 3 4 will be more than sufficient (a) to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds issued to finance the facilities, (b) to pay the taxes on 5 the facilities, (c) to build up and maintain any reserves deemed by the 6 7 governing body to be advisable in connection therewith, and (d) unless 8 the agreement of lease obligates the lessees to pay for the maintenance 9 and insurance of the facilities, to pay the costs of maintaining the 10 facilities in good repair and keeping the same properly insured. Subject to the limitations of this chapter, the lease or extensions or 11 modifications thereof may contain such other terms and conditions as 12 may be mutually acceptable to the parties((, and)). The term of the 13 lease must be less than the term of the municipality's ownership in the 14 leased facility by at least one month. Notwithstanding any other 15 provisions of law relating to the sale of property owned by 16 17 municipalities, such lease may contain an option for the lessees to purchase the facilities on such terms and conditions with or without 18 19 consideration as may be mutually acceptable to the parties.

20 **Sec. 92.** RCW 84.09.030 and 1989 c 378 s 8 and 1989 c 217 s 1 are 21 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

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Except as follows, the boundaries of counties, cities and all other taxing districts, for purposes of property taxation and the levy of property taxes, shall be the established official boundaries of such districts existing on the first day of March of the year in which the property tax levy is made.

The official boundaries of a newly incorporated taxing district shall be established at a different date in the year in which the incorporation occurred as follows:

(1) Boundaries for a newly incorporated city shall be established on the last day of March of the year in which the initial property tax levy is made, and the boundaries of a road district, library district, or fire protection district or districts, that include any portion of the area that was incorporated within its boundaries shall be altered as of this date to exclude this area, if the budget for the newly incorporated city is filed pursuant to RCW 84.52.020 and the levy request of the newly incorporated city is made pursuant to RCW 84.52.070. Whenever a proposed city incorporation is on the March

- special election ballot, the county auditor shall submit the legal description of the proposed city to the department of revenue on or before the first day of March;
- 4 (2) Boundaries for a newly incorporated port district shall be 5 established on the first day of October if the boundaries of the newly 6 incorporated port district are coterminous with the boundaries of 7 another taxing district, as they existed on the first day of March of 8 that year;
- 9 (3) Boundaries of any other newly incorporated taxing district 10 shall be established on the first day of June of the year in which the 11 property tax levy is made if the taxing district has boundaries 12 coterminous with the boundaries of another taxing district, as they 13 existed on the first day of March of that year.

The boundaries of a taxing district shall be established on the 14 15 first day of June if territory has been added to, or removed from, the taxing district after the first day of March of that year with 16 boundaries coterminous with the boundaries of another taxing district 17 as they existed on the first day of March of that year. However, the 18 19 boundaries of a road district, library district, or fire protection 20 district or districts, that include any portion of the area that was annexed to a city or town within its boundaries shall be altered as of 21 this date to exclude this area. In any case where any instrument 22 setting forth the official boundaries of any newly established taxing 23 24 district, or setting forth any change in such boundaries, is required 25 by law to be filed in the office of the county auditor or other county 26 official, said instrument shall be filed in triplicate. The officer with whom such instrument is filed shall transmit two copies to the 27 28 county assessor.

- 29 <u>(4) The boundaries of a newly incorporated water district formed as</u>
 30 <u>a result of a special election held in March shall be established as of</u>
 31 <u>the first day of June next following the election.</u>
- No property tax levy shall be made for any taxing district whose boundaries are not established as of the dates provided in this section.
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 93.** A new section is added to chapter 84.52 RCW to read as follows:
- 37 (1) Annually, at the time required by law for the levying of taxes 38 for county purposes, the proper county officers required by law to make

- 1 and enter such tax levies shall make and enter a tax levy or levies as 2 follows:
- 3 (a) A levy upon all of the taxable property within the county for 4 the amount of all taxes levied by the county for county or state 5 purposes that were:
- 6 (i) Canceled as uncollectible pursuant to RCW 84.56.240 within the 7 preceding twelve months; or
- 8 (ii) Not collected because of changes made after final 9 certification of the assessment roll.
- 10 (b) A levy upon all of the taxable property of each taxing district 11 within the county for the amount of all taxes levied by the county for 12 the purposes of such taxing district that were:
- (i) Canceled as uncollectible pursuant to RCW 84.56.240 within the preceding twelve months; or
- 15 (ii) Not collected because of changes made after final 16 certification of the assessment roll.
- (2) For purposes of this section, "changes" means increases or decreases in assessed value of property resulting from an error or final adjustments made by a county board of equalization, the state board of tax appeals, or a court of competent jurisdiction, including changes reflecting settlements of proceedings in such board or court.
- 22 "Changes" does not include changes in assessed value of property 23 resulting from actions brought to recover taxes under RCW 84.68.020.
- 24 **Sec. 94.** RCW 84.36.381 and 1992 c 187 s 1 are each amended to read 25 as follows:
- A person shall be exempt from any legal obligation to pay all or a portion of the amount of excess and regular real property taxes due and payable in the year following the year in which a claim is filed, and thereafter, in accordance with the following:
- (1) The property taxes must have been imposed upon a residence 30 which was occupied by the person claiming the exemption as a principal 31 place of residence as of January 1st of the year for which the 32 33 exemption is claimed: PROVIDED, That any person who sells, transfers, or is displaced from his or her residence may transfer his or her 34 exemption status to a replacement residence, but no claimant shall 35 36 receive an exemption on more than one residence in any year: PROVIDED 37 FURTHER, That confinement of the person to a hospital or nursing home shall not disqualify the claim of exemption if: 38

- 1 <u>(a) The residence is temporarily unoccupied ((or if));</u>
- 2 <u>(b)</u> The residence is occupied by a spouse and/or a person
 3 financially dependent on the claimant for support; or
- 4 <u>(c) The residence is rented for the purpose of paying nursing home</u> 5 <u>or hospital costs</u>;
- 6 (2) The person claiming the exemption must have owned, at the time 7 of filing, in fee, as a life estate, or by contract purchase, the 8 residence on which the property taxes have been imposed or if the 9 person claiming the exemption lives in a cooperative housing 10 association, corporation, or partnership, such person must own a share therein representing the unit or portion of the structure in which he 11 or she resides. For purposes of this subsection, a residence owned by 12 13 a marital community or owned by cotenants shall be deemed to be owned by each spouse or cotenant, and any lease for life shall be deemed a 14 15 life estate;
- 16 (3) The person claiming the exemption must be sixty-one years of 17 age or older on December 31st of the year in which the exemption claim is filed, or must have been, at the time of filing, retired from 18 19 regular gainful employment by reason of physical disability: PROVIDED, 20 That any surviving spouse of a person who was receiving an exemption at the time of the person's death shall qualify if the surviving spouse is 21 22 fifty-seven years of age or older and otherwise meets the requirements 23 of this section;

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- (4) The amount that the person shall be exempt from an obligation to pay shall be calculated on the basis of combined disposable income, as defined in RCW 84.36.383. If the person claiming the exemption was retired for two months or more of the preceding year, the combined disposable income of such person shall be calculated by multiplying the average monthly combined disposable income of such person during the months such person was retired by twelve. If the income of the person claiming exemption is reduced for two or more months of the preceding year by reason of the death of the person's spouse, the combined disposable income of such person shall be calculated by multiplying the average monthly combined disposable income of such person after the death of the spouse by twelve.
- 36 (5)(a) A person who otherwise qualifies under this section and has 37 a combined disposable income of twenty-six thousand dollars or less 38 shall be exempt from all excess property taxes; and

- (b)(i) A person who otherwise qualifies under this section and has a combined disposable income of eighteen thousand dollars or less but greater than fifteen thousand dollars shall be exempt from all regular property taxes on the greater of thirty thousand dollars or thirty percent of the valuation of his or her residence, but not to exceed fifty thousand dollars of the valuation of his or her residence; or
- 7 (ii) A person who otherwise qualifies under this section and has a 8 combined disposable income of fifteen thousand dollars or less shall be 9 exempt from all regular property taxes on the greater of thirty-four 10 thousand dollars or fifty percent of the valuation of his or her 11 residence.
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 95.** Section 93 of this act is effective for taxes levied for collection in 1993 and thereafter.
- 14 **Sec. 96.** RCW 54.16.030 and 1955 c 390 s 4 are each amended to read 15 as follows:
- A district may construct, purchase, condemn and purchase, acquire, 16 17 add to, maintain, conduct, and operate water works and irrigation plants and systems, within or without its limits, for the purpose of 18 furnishing the district, and the inhabitants thereof, and any other 19 persons including public and private corporations within or without its 20 limits, with an ample supply of water for all purposes, public and 21 22 private, including water power, domestic use, and irrigation, with full 23 and exclusive authority to sell and regulate and control the use, 24 distribution, and price thereof. The district may exercise all powers granted to water districts pursuant to chapter 57.08 RCW that are not 25 inconsistent with the express provisions of this title. 26
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 97. A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW to read as follows:
- The council of a city or town that has territory included in two 29 counties may adopt an ordinance creating an urban emergency medical 30 service district in all of the portion of the city or town that is 31 located in one of the two counties if: (1) The county in which the 32 urban emergency medical service district is located does not impose an 33 34 emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069; and (2) 35 the other county in which the city or town is located does impose an 36 emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069.

ordinance creating the district may only be adopted after a public 1 hearing has been held on the creation of the district and the council 2 makes a finding that it is in the public interest to create the 3 4 The members of the city or town council, acting in an ex officio capacity and independently, shall compose the governing body of 5 the urban emergency medical service district. The voters of an urban 6 7 emergency medical service district shall be all registered voters 8 residing within the urban emergency medical service district.

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within its boundaries.

An urban emergency medical service district shall be a quasimunicipal corporation and an independent taxing "authority" within the
meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution. Urban
emergency medical service districts shall also be "taxing authorities"
within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

An urban emergency medical service district shall have the
authority to contract under chapter 39.34 RCW with a county, city,
town, fire protection district, public hospital district, or emergency

medical service district to have emergency medical services provided

Territory located in the same county as an urban emergency medical service district that is annexed by the city or town shall automatically be annexed to the urban emergency medical service district.

23 **Sec. 98.** RCW 84.52.069 and 1991 c 175 s 1 are each amended to read 24 as follows:

- (1) As used in this section, "taxing district" means a county, emergency medical service district, city or town, public hospital district, urban emergency medical service district, or fire protection district.
- 29 (2) A taxing district may impose additional regular property tax 30 levies in an amount equal to fifty cents or less per thousand dollars of the assessed value of property in the taxing district in each year 31 32 for six consecutive years when specifically authorized so to do by a 33 majority of at least three-fifths of the registered voters thereof 34 approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted at a general or special election, at which election the number of persons voting 35 36 "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number 37 equal to forty per centum of the total ((votes cast)) number of voters 38 voting in such taxing district at the last preceding general election

when the number of registered voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty per centum of the total ((votes cast)) number of voters 2 voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election; 3 4 or by a majority of at least three-fifths of the registered voters 5 thereof voting on the proposition when the number of registered voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty per centum of the total ((votes 6 7 cast)) number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last 8 preceding general election. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW 9 29.30.111.

(3) Any tax imposed under this section shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services.

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(4) If a county levies a tax under this section, no taxing district within the county may levy a tax under this section. No other taxing district may levy a tax under this section if another taxing district has levied a tax under this section within its boundaries: PROVIDED, That if a county levies less than fifty cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of property, then any other taxing district may levy a tax under this section equal to the difference between the rate of the levy by the county and fifty cents: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if a taxing district within a county levies this tax, and the voters of the county subsequently approve a levying of this tax, then the amount of the taxing district levy within the county shall be reduced, when the combined levies exceed fifty cents. Whenever a tax is levied countywide, the service shall, insofar as is feasible, be provided throughout the county: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no county-wide levy proposal may be placed on the ballot without the approval of the legislative authority of each city exceeding fifty thousand population within the county: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section and RCW 36.32.480 shall not prohibit any city or town from levying an annual excess levy to fund emergency medical services: AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, That if a county proposes to impose tax levies under this section, no other ballot proposition authorizing tax levies under this section by another taxing district in the county may be placed before the voters at the same election at which the county ballot proposition is placed: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any taxing district emergency medical service levy that is authorized subsequent to a county emergency medical

- 1 service levy, shall expire concurrently with the county emergency 2 medical service levy.
- 3 (5) The tax levy authorized in this section is in addition to the 4 tax levy authorized in RCW 84.52.043.
- 5 (6) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 shall not apply to the first 6 levy imposed pursuant to this section following the approval of such 7 levy by the voters pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.
- 8 (7) No taxing district may levy under this section more than 9 twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of property if 10 reductions under RCW 84.52.010(2) are made for the year within the 11 boundaries of the taxing district.
- 12 **Sec. 99.** RCW 53.12.010 and 1992 c 146 s 1 are each amended to read 13 as follows:

14 The powers of the port district shall be exercised through a port commission consisting of three or, when permitted by this title, five 15 members. Every port district that is not coextensive with a county 16 having a population of five hundred thousand or more shall be divided 17 18 into ((three)) the same number of commissioner districts as there are 19 commissioner positions, each having approximately equal population. Where a port district with three commissioner positions is coextensive 20 with the boundaries of a county that has a population of less than five 21 22 hundred thousand and the county has three county legislative authority 23 districts, the port ((district)) commissioner districts shall be the 24 county legislative authority districts. In other instances where a 25 port district is divided into commissioner districts, the ((petition proposing the formation of such a)) port commission shall divide the 26 port district ((shall describe three)) into commissioner districts 27 ((each having approximately the same population and)) unless the 28 29 commissioner districts have been described pursuant to section 101 of 30 this act. The commissioner districts shall be altered as provided in chapter 53.16 RCW. 31

Commissioner districts shall be used as follows: (1) Only a registered voter who resides in a commissioner district may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a commissioner of the commissioner district; and (2) only the voters of a commissioner district may vote at a primary ((election)) to nominate candidates for a commissioner of the commissioner district. Voters of the entire port district may vote

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- 1 at a general election to elect a person as a commissioner of the 2 commissioner district.
- 3 ((In port districts having additional commissioners as authorized
- 4 by RCW 53.12.120, 53.12.130, and 53.12.115, the powers of the port
- 5 district shall be exercised through a port commission consisting of
- 6 five members constituted as provided therein.))
- 7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 100.** A new section is added to chapter 53.12
- 8 RCW to read as follows:
- 9 Any less than county-wide port district that uses commissioner
- 10 districts may cease using commissioner districts as provided in this
- 11 section.
- 12 The commissioners of a less than county-wide port district that is
- 13 divided into commissioner districts may adopt a resolution eliminating
- 14 the use of commissioner districts in the port district. A copy of the
- 15 resolution shall be transmitted to the county auditor. Commissioner
- 16 districts shall not be used in that port district commencing at the
- 17 next district election occurring one hundred twenty or more days after
- 18 the county auditor receives a copy of the resolution.
- 19 A ballot proposition authorizing the elimination of commissioner
- 20 districts shall be submitted to the voters of a less than county-wide
- 21 port district that is divided into commissioner districts if a petition
- 22 is submitted to the port commission proposing that the port district
- 23 cease using commissioner districts, that is signed by registered voters
- 24 of the port district equal in number to at least ten percent of the
- 25 number of voters who voted at the last district general election. The
- 26 port commission shall transfer the petition immediately to the county
- 27 auditor who shall review the signatures and certify its sufficiency.
- 28 A ballot proposition authorizing the elimination of commissioner
- 29 districts shall be submitted at the next district general election
- 30 occurring sixty or more days after a petition with sufficient
- 31 signatures was submitted. If the ballot proposition authorizing the
- 32 port district to cease using commissioner districts is approved by a
- 33 simple majority vote, the port district shall cease using commissioner
- 34 districts at all subsequent elections. The port commission may adopt
- 35 a resolution eliminating the use of commissioner districts in lieu of
- 36 having the ballot proposition submitted to district voters.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 101. A new section is added to chapter 53.04 2 RCW to read as follows:

Three commissioner districts, each with approximately the same population, shall be described in the petition proposing the creation of a port district under RCW 53.04.020, if the process to create the port district was initiated by voter petition, or shall be described by the county legislative authority, if the process to initiate the creation of the port district was by action of the county legislative authority. However, commissioner districts shall not be described if the commissioner districts of the proposed port district shall be the same as the county legislative authority districts.

The initial port commissioners shall be elected as provided in RCW 53.12.172.

Sec. 102. RCW 53.04.023 and 1992 c 147 s 2 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

A less than county-wide port district with an assessed valuation of at least seventy-five million dollars may be created in a county ((bordering on saltwater)) that already has a less than county-wide port district located within its boundaries. Except as provided in this section, such a port district shall be created in accordance with the procedure to create a county-wide port district.

The effort to create such a port district is initiated by the filing of a petition with the county auditor calling for the creation of such a port district, describing the boundaries of the proposed port district, designating either three or five commissioner positions, describing commissioner districts if the petitioners propose that the commissioners represent districts, and providing a name for the proposed port district. The petition must be signed by voters residing within the proposed port district equal in number to at least ten percent of such voters who voted at the last county general election.

percent of such voters who voted at the last county general election.

A public hearing on creation of the proposed port district shall be held by the county legislative authority if the county auditor certifies that the petition contained sufficient valid signatures. Notice of the public hearing must be published in the county's official newspaper at least ten days prior to the date of the public hearing. After taking testimony, the county legislative authority may make changes in the boundaries of the proposed port district if it finds that such changes are in the public interest and shall determine if the

1 creation of the port district is in the public interest. No area may 2 be added to the boundaries unless a subsequent public hearing is held 3 on the proposed port district.

The county legislative authority shall submit a ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the proposed port district to the voters of the proposed port district, at any special election date provided in RCW 29.13.020, if it finds the creation of the port district to be in the public interest.

9 The port district shall be created if a majority of the voters voting on the ballot proposition favor the creation of the port 10 district. The initial port commissioners shall be elected at the same 11 election, from districts or at large, as provided in the petition 12 initiating the creation of the port district. The election shall be 13 otherwise conducted as provided in RCW ((53.12.050)) 53.12.172, but the 14 15 election of commissioners shall be null and void if the port district is not created. 16 ((Commissioner districts shall not be used in the 17 initial election of the port commissioners.))

18 This section shall expire July 1, 1997.

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19 **Sec. 103.** RCW 53.12.172 and 1992 c 146 s 2 are each reenacted and 20 amended to read as follows:

(1) In every port district the term of office of each port commissioner shall be four years in each port district that is countywide with a population of one hundred thousand or more, or either six or four years in all other port districts as provided in RCW 53.12.175, and until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

(2) The initial port commissioners shall be elected at the same election as when the ballot proposition is submitted to voters authorizing the creation of the port district. If the port district is created the persons elected at this election shall serve as the initial port commission. No primary shall be held. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for commissioner from each commissioner district shall be elected as the commissioner of that district.

(3) The terms of office of the initial port commissioners shall be staggered as follows in a port district that is county-wide with a population of one hundred thousand or more: (((1))) (a) The two persons who are elected receiving the two greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held

in an odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of office if the election 1 is held in an even-numbered year, and shall hold office until 2 successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance 3 with RCW 29.04.170; and $((\frac{(2)}{2}))$ (b) the other person who is elected 4 shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held 5 in an odd-numbered year, or a one-year term of office if the election 6 7 is held in an even-numbered year, and shall hold office until a 8 successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance 9 with RCW 29.04.170.

10 (4) The terms of office of the initial port commissioners in all other port districts shall be staggered as follows: (a) The person who 11 is elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to 12 13 a six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or to a five-year term of office if the election is held in an 14 15 even-numbered year, and shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170; (b) 16 17 the person who is elected receiving the next greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office if the election is held 18 19 in an odd-numbered year or to a three-year term of office if the 20 election is held in an even-numbered year, and shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance 21 22 with RCW 29.04.170; and (c) the other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-23 24 numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in 25 an even-numbered year, and shall hold office until a successor is 26 elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. 27

(5) The initial port commissioners shall take office immediately 28 after being elected and qualified, but the length of their terms shall 29 be calculated from the first day in January in the year following their elections.

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32 **Sec. 104.** RCW 53.12.115 and 1992 c 146 s 7 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

34 A ballot proposition shall be submitted to the voters of any port district authorizing an increase in the number of port commissioners to 35 five whenever the port commission adopts a resolution proposing the increase in number of port commissioners or a petition ((requesting)) proposing such an increase has been submitted to the county auditor of

- 1 the county in which the port district is located that has been signed
- 2 by voters of the port district at least equal in number to ten percent
- 3 of the number of voters in the port district who voted at the last
- 4 general election. The ballot proposition shall be submitted at the
- 5 next general or special election occurring sixty or more days after the
- 6 petition was submitted or resolution was adopted.
- 7 At the next general <u>or special</u> election following the election in
- 8 which an increase in the number of port commissioners was authorized,
- 9 candidates for the two additional port commissioner positions shall be
- 10 elected as provided in RCW 53.12.130.
- 11 **Sec. 105.** RCW 53.12.120 and 1992 c 146 s 8 are each amended to
- 12 read as follows:
- When the population of a port district that has three commissioners
- 14 reaches five hundred thousand, in accordance with the latest United
- 15 States regular or special census or with the official state population
- 16 estimate, there shall be submitted to the voters of the district, at
- 17 the next <u>district</u> general election or at a special port election called
- 18 for that purpose, the proposition of increasing the number of
- 19 commissioners to five. ((At any general election thereafter, the same
- 20 proposition may be submitted by resolution of the port commissioners,
- 21 by filing a certified copy of the resolution with the county auditor at
- 22 least four months prior to the general election. If the proposition is
- 23 approved by the voters, the commission in that port district shall
- 24 consist of five commissioners.))
- 25 <u>At the next district general election following the election in</u>
- 26 which an increase in the number of port commissioners was authorized,
- 27 candidates for the two additional port commissioner positions shall be
- 28 <u>elected as provided in RCW 53.12.130.</u>
- 29 **Sec. 106.** RCW 53.12.130 and 1992 c 146 s 9 are each amended to
- 30 read as follows:
- 31 Two additional port commissioners shall be elected at the next
- 32 <u>district</u> general election following the election at which voters
- 33 authorized the increase in port commissioners to five members. ((The
- 34 two additional positions shall be numbered positions four and five.))
- 35 The port commissioners shall divide the port district into five
- 36 commissioner districts prior to the first day of June in the year in
- 37 which the two additional commissioners shall be elected. The new

commissioner districts shall be numbered one through five and the three 1 incumbent commissioners shall represent commissioner districts one 2 through three. If, as a result of redrawing the district boundaries 3 4 two or three of the incumbent commissioners reside in one of the new commissioner districts, the commissioners who reside in the same 5 commissioner district shall determine by lot which of the first three 6 numbered commissioner districts they shall represent for the remainder 7 8 of their respective terms. A primary shall be held to nominate 9 candidates <u>from districts four and five</u> where necessary commissioners shall be elected from commissioner districts four and 10 five at the general election. The persons ((receiving the highest 11 number of votes for each position shall be elected to that position 12 and)) elected as commissioners from commissioner districts four and 13 14 five shall take office immediately after qualification as defined under 15 RCW 29.01.135.

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In a port district where commissioners are elected to four-year terms of office, the additional commissioner thus elected receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office and the other additional commissioner thus elected shall be elected to a term of office of two years, if the election ((were)) is held in an odd-numbered year, or the additional commissioner thus elected receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to a term of office of three years and the other shall be elected to a term of office of one year, if the election ((were)) is held in an evennumbered year. In a port district where the commissioners are elected to six-year terms of office, the additional commissioner thus elected receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to a six-year term of office and the other additional commissioner shall be elected to a four-year term of office, if the election is held in an oddnumbered year, or the additional commissioner receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to a term of office of five-years and the other shall be elected to a three-year term of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The length of terms of office shall be computed from the first day of January in the year following this election.

((A successor to a commissioner holding position four or five whose term is about to expire, shall be elected at the general election next preceding such expiration, for a)) Successor commissioners from districts four and five shall be elected to terms of either six or four

years, depending on the length of terms of office to which commissioners of that port district are elected. ((Positions four and five shall not be associated with a commissioner district and the elections to both nominate candidates for those positions and elect commissioners for these positions shall be held on a port district wide basis.))

Sec. 107. RCW 53.12.175 and 1992 c 146 s 3 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

A ballot proposition to reduce the terms of office of port commissioners from six years to four years shall be submitted to the voters of any port district that otherwise would have commissioners with six-year terms of office upon either resolution of the port commissioners or petition of voters of the port district proposing the reduction in terms of office, which petition has been signed by voters of the port district equal in number to at least ten percent of the number of voters in the port district voting at the last ((district)) general election. The petition shall be submitted to the county auditor. If the petition was signed by sufficient valid signatures, the ballot proposition shall be submitted at the next ((district)) general or special election that occurs sixty or more days after the adoption of the resolution or submission of the petition.

If the ballot proposition reducing the terms of office of port commissioners is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition, the commissioner or commissioners who are elected at that election shall be elected to four-year terms of office. The terms of office of the other commissioners shall not be reduced, but each successor shall be elected to a four-year term of office.

Sec. 108. RCW 53.16.015 and 1992 c 146 s 10 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

((In a port district that is not coterminous with a county that has three county legislative authority districts and that has port commissioner districts,)) The port commission of a port district that uses commissioner districts may redraw the commissioner district boundaries as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW at any time and submit the redrawn boundaries to the county auditor if the port district is not coterminous with a county that has the same number of county legislative authority districts as the port has port commissioners.

- 1 The new commissioner districts shall be used at the next election at
- 2 which a port commissioner is regularly elected that occurs at least one
- 3 hundred eighty days after the redrawn boundaries have been submitted.
- 4 Each commissioner district shall encompass as nearly as possible ((one-
- 5 third of the population of the port district)) the same population.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 109.** The following acts or parts of acts are 7 each repealed:
- 8 (1) RCW 35.23.070 and 1965 c 7 s 35.23.070;
- 9 (2) RCW 35.24.070 and 1965 c 7 s 35.24.070;
- 10 (3) RCW 35.27.110 and 1965 c 7 s 35.27.110;
- 11 (4) RCW 35.61.060 and 1985 c 416 s 2 & 1965 c 7 s 35.61.069;
- 12 (5) RCW 35.61.070 and 1965 c 7 s 35.61.070;
- 13 (6) RCW 35.61.080 and 1965 c 7 s 35.61.080;
- 14 (7) RCW 35A.02.001 and 1989 c 84 s 35;
- 15 (8) RCW 35A.02.100 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.02.100;
- 16 (9) RCW 35A.02.110 and 1979 ex.s. c 18 s 9 & 1967 ex.s. c 119 s
- 17 35A.02.110;
- 18 (10) RCW 35A.14.060 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.14.060;
- 19 (11) RCW 35A.15.030 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.15.030;
- 20 (12) RCW 35A.16.020 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.16.020;
- 21 (13) RCW 35A.29.010 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.010;
- 22 (14) RCW 35A.29.020 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.020;
- 23 (15) RCW 35A.29.030 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.030;
- 24 (16) RCW 35A.29.040 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.040;
- 25 (17) RCW 35A.29.050 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.050;
- 26 (18) RCW 35A.29.060 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.060;
- 27 (19) RCW 35A.29.070 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.070;
- 28 (20) RCW 35A.29.080 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.080;
- 29 (21) RCW 35A.29.090 and 1986 c 234 s 32 & 1985 c 281 s 27;
- 30 (22) RCW 35A.29.100 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.100;
- 31 (23) RCW 35A.29.105 and 1990 c 59 s 106 & 1967 ex.s. c 119 s
- 32 35A.29.105;
- 33 (24) RCW 35A.29.110 and 1990 c 59 s 107, 1986 c 167 s 21, 1979
- 34 ex.s. c 18 s 30, 1970 ex.s. c 52 s 4, & 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.110;
- 35 (25) RCW 35A.29.140 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.29.140;
- 36 (26) RCW 35A.29.150 and 1970 ex.s. c 52 s 5 & 1967 ex.s. c 119 s
- 37 35A.29.150;

- (27) RCW 36.54.080 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 s 36 & 1963 c 4 s 1 2 36.54.080; 3 (28) RCW 36.54.090 and 1963 c 4 s 36.54.090; 4 (29) RCW 36.54.100 and 1963 c 4 s 36.54.100; 5 (30) RCW 36.69.060 and 1963 c 4 s 36.69.060; (31) RCW 44.70.010 and 1987 c 298 s 7; 6 7 (32) RCW 53.12.047 and 1992 c 146 s 6; 8 (33) RCW 53.12.150 and 1990 c 40 s 1, 1985 c 87 s 1, 1983 c 11 s 1, 9 1959 c 175 s 8, & 1959 c 17 s 8; 10 (34) RCW 57.02.060 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 17 s 6; (35) RCW 68.52.240 and 1947 c 6 s 16; 11 (36) RCW 70.44.051 and 1967 c 77 s 1; 12 13 (37) RCW 70.44.055 and 1967 c 77 s 3; and
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 110. Sections 40 and 92 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately."

19 **ESHB 1464** - S COMM AMD

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20 By Committee on Government Operations

(38) RCW 70.44.057 and 1967 c 77 s 4.

21 ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY S-3279.1, S-3132.4, S-3233.1 22 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "government;" strike the 23 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 42.12.010, 43.06.010, 14.08.304, 28A.315.520, 29.15.050, 29.15.120, 29.15.150, 29.15.160, 24 25 29.15.170, 29.15.200, 29.21.015, 35.17.020, 35.17.400, 35.18.020, 35.23.050, 35.23.240, 35.23.530, 35.24.050, 35.24.060, 26 35.18.270, 27 35.24.100, 35.24.290, 35.27.100, 35.27.140, 35.61.050, 35A.01.070, 35A.02.050, 35A.02.130, 35A.06.020, 35A.06.030, 35A.06.050, 35A.12.010, 28 35A.12.040, 35A.12.050, 35A.12.060, 35A.12.180, 35A.13.010, 35A.13.020, 29 35A.14.060, 35A.14.070, 35A.15.040, 35A.16.030, 36.69.020, 36.69.070, 30 36.69.080, 36.69.090, 36.69.100, 36.69.440, 36.105.010, 36.105.020, 31 32 36.105.030, 52.14.010, 52.14.015, 52.14.030, 52.14.050, 52.14.060, 53.12.140, 54.08.060, 54.12.010, 54.40.070, 56.12.020, 33 56.12.030, 34 57.02.050, 57.12.020, 57.12.030, 57.12.039, 57.32.022, 57.32.023, 68.52.100, 68.52.140, 68.52.160, 68.52.220, 35 70.44.040, 70.44.045,

70.77.280,

70.77.355,

70.44.053, 70.77.177, 70.77.265, 70.77.270,

70.77.450, 70.95A.030, 70.95A.060, 84.36.381, 54.16.030, 84.52.069, 1 53.12.010, 53.04.023, 53.12.115, 53.12.120, 53.12.130, 53.12.175, and 2 3 53.16.015; reenacting and amending RCW 84.09.030 and 53.12.172; adding 4 a new section to chapter 42.12 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 29.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.02 RCW; adding a new 5 section to chapter 35A.29 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 56.12 6 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 68.52 RCW; adding a new section to 7 8 chapter 70.77 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 84.52 RCW; adding a 9 new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 53.12 10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 53.04 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW 35.23.070, 35.24.070, 35.27.110, 35.61.060, 35.61.070, 11 35.61.080, 35A.02.001, 35A.02.100, 35A.02.110, 35A.14.060, 35A.15.030, 12 35A.16.020, 35A.29.010, 35A.29.020, 35A.29.030, 35A.29.040, 35A.29.050, 13 14 35A.29.060, 35A.29.070, 35A.29.080, 35A.29.090, 35A.29.100, 35A.29.105, 15 35A.29.110, 35A.29.140, 35A.29.150, 36.54.080, 36.54.090, 36.54.100, 36.69.060, 44.70.010, 53.12.047, 53.12.150, 57.02.060, 68.52.240, 16 70.44.051, 70.44.055, and 70.44.057; and declaring an emergency." 17

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