

1 2213-S AMH HARG H4928.1

2 SHB 2213 - H AMD 070
3 By Representative Hargrove

4

5 On page 11, after line 26, insert the following:

6

"PART VI

7

PROPERTY TAX LEVIES AND ASSESSMENTS

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 601.** A new section is added to chapter 84.55
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 (1) Except as provided in this chapter, the levy for the state in
11 any year shall be set so that the regular property taxes payable in the
12 following year on each parcel of property shall not exceed one hundred
13 five percent in 1997, one hundred four percent in 1998, and one hundred
14 three percent or one hundred percent plus inflation, whichever is
15 lower, in 1999, of the amount of regular property taxes lawfully levied
16 for the state in the highest of the three most recent years in which
17 such taxes were levied for such district plus an additional dollar
18 amount calculated by multiplying the increase in assessed value in that
19 district resulting from new construction, improvements to property, and
20 any increase in the assessed value of state-assessed property by the
21 regular property tax levy rate of the state for the preceding year.

22 (2) As used in this section, "inflation" means the percentage
23 change in the United States consumer price index for the calendar year
24 during which the taxes are payable, as forecast by the economic and
25 revenue forecast council in the official forecast adopted in September
26 of the year before the taxes are payable.

27 **Sec. 602.** RCW 84.55.010 and 1979 ex.s. c 218 s 2 are each amended
28 to read as follows:

29 Except as provided in this chapter, the levy for a taxing district,
30 other than the state, in any year shall (~~be set so that the regular~~
31 ~~property taxes payable in the following year shall~~) not exceed one
32 hundred (~~six~~) three percent of the amount of regular property taxes
33 lawfully levied for such district in the highest of the three most
34 recent years in which such taxes were levied for such district plus an
35 additional dollar amount calculated by multiplying the increase in

1 assessed value in that district resulting from new construction,
2 improvements to property, and any increase in the assessed value of
3 state-assessed property by the regular property tax levy rate of that
4 district for the preceding year. The limit under this section on
5 regular property taxes payable is reduced in 1997 to one hundred five
6 percent, reduced in 1998 to one hundred four percent, and reduced in
7 1999 to one hundred two percent, and that one hundred two percent limit
8 shall remain the limit thereafter.

9 **Sec. 603.** RCW 35.61.210 and 1990 c 234 s 3 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 The board of park commissioners may levy or cause to be levied a
12 general tax on all the property located in said park district each year
13 not to exceed fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the
14 property in such park district. In addition, the board of park
15 commissioners may levy or cause to be levied a general tax on all
16 property located in said park district each year not to exceed twenty-
17 five cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Although park
18 districts are authorized to impose two separate regular property tax
19 levies, the levies shall be considered to be a single levy for purposes
20 of the ((one hundred six percent)) limitation provided for in chapter
21 84.55 RCW.

22 The board is hereby authorized to levy a general tax in excess of
23 its regular property tax levy or levies when authorized so to do at a
24 special election conducted in accordance with and subject to all the
25 requirements of the Constitution and laws of the state now in force or
26 hereafter enacted governing the limitation of tax levies. The board is
27 hereby authorized to call a special election for the purpose of
28 submitting to the qualified voters of the park district a proposition
29 to levy a tax in excess of the seventy-five cents per thousand dollars
30 of assessed value herein specifically authorized. The manner of
31 submitting any such proposition, of certifying the same, and of giving
32 or publishing notice thereof, shall be as provided by law for the
33 submission of propositions by cities or towns.

34 The board shall include in its general tax levy for each year a
35 sufficient sum to pay the interest on all outstanding bonds and may
36 include a sufficient amount to create a sinking fund for the redemption
37 of all outstanding bonds. The levy shall be certified to the proper
38 county officials for collection the same as other general taxes and

1 when collected, the general tax shall be placed in a separate fund in
2 the office of the county treasurer to be known as the "metropolitan
3 park district fund" and paid out on warrants.

4 **Sec. 604.** RCW 70.44.060 and 1990 c 234 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 All public hospital districts organized under the provisions of
7 this chapter shall have power:

8 (1) To make a survey of existing hospital and other health care
9 facilities within and without such district.

10 (2) To construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, lease,
11 add to, maintain, operate, develop and regulate, sell and convey all
12 lands, property, property rights, equipment, hospital and other health
13 care facilities and systems for the maintenance of hospitals,
14 buildings, structures, and any and all other facilities, and to
15 exercise the right of eminent domain to effectuate the foregoing
16 purposes or for the acquisition and damaging of the same or property of
17 any kind appurtenant thereto, and such right of eminent domain shall be
18 exercised and instituted pursuant to a resolution of the commission and
19 conducted in the same manner and by the same procedure as in or may be
20 provided by law for the exercise of the power of eminent domain by
21 incorporated cities and towns of the state of Washington in the
22 acquisition of property rights: PROVIDED, That no public hospital
23 district shall have the right of eminent domain and the power of
24 condemnation against any health care facility.

25 (3) To lease existing hospital and other health care facilities and
26 equipment and/or other property used in connection therewith, including
27 ambulances, and to pay such rental therefor as the commissioners shall
28 deem proper; to provide hospital and other health care services for
29 residents of said district by facilities located outside the boundaries
30 of said district, by contract or in any other manner said commissioners
31 may deem expedient or necessary under the existing conditions; and said
32 hospital district shall have the power to contract with other
33 communities, corporations, or individuals for the services provided by
34 said hospital district; and they may further receive in said hospitals
35 and other health care facilities and furnish proper and adequate
36 services to all persons not residents of said district at such
37 reasonable and fair compensation as may be considered proper:
38 PROVIDED, That it must at all times make adequate provision for the

1 needs of the district and residents of said district shall have prior
2 rights to the available hospital and other health care facilities of
3 said district, at rates set by the district commissioners.

4 (4) For the purpose aforesaid, it shall be lawful for any district
5 so organized to take, condemn and purchase, lease, or acquire, any and
6 all property, and property rights, including state and county lands,
7 for any of the purposes aforesaid, and any and all other facilities
8 necessary or convenient, and in connection with the construction,
9 maintenance, and operation of any such hospitals and other health care
10 facilities, subject, however, to the applicable limitations provided in
11 subsection (2) of this section.

12 (5) To contract indebtedness or borrow money for corporate purposes
13 on the credit of the corporation or the revenues of the hospitals
14 thereof, and the revenues of any other facilities or services that the
15 district is or hereafter may be authorized by law to provide, and to
16 issue and sell: (a) Revenue bonds, revenue warrants, or other revenue
17 obligations therefor payable solely out of a special fund or funds into
18 which the district may pledge such amount of the revenues of the
19 hospitals thereof, and the revenues of any other facilities or services
20 that the district is or hereafter may be authorized by law to provide,
21 to pay the same as the commissioners of the district may determine,
22 such revenue bonds, warrants, or other obligations to be issued and
23 sold in the same manner and subject to the same provisions as provided
24 for the issuance of revenue bonds, warrants, or other obligations by
25 cities or towns under the Municipal Revenue Bond Act, chapter 35.41
26 RCW, as may hereafter be amended; (b) general obligation bonds therefor
27 in the manner and form as provided in RCW 70.44.110 and 70.44.130, as
28 may hereafter be amended; or (c) interest-bearing warrants to be drawn
29 on a fund pending deposit in such fund of money sufficient to redeem
30 such warrants and to be issued and paid in such manner and upon such
31 terms and conditions as the board of commissioners may deem to be in
32 the best interest of the district; and to assign or sell hospital
33 accounts receivable, and accounts receivable for the use of other
34 facilities or services that the district is or hereafter may be
35 authorized by law to provide, for collection with or without recourse.
36 General obligation bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with
37 chapter 39.46 RCW. Revenue bonds, revenue warrants, or other revenue
38 obligations may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46
39 RCW.

1 (6) To raise revenue by the levy of an annual tax on all taxable
2 property within such public hospital district not to exceed fifty cents
3 per thousand dollars of assessed value, and an additional annual tax on
4 all taxable property within such public hospital district not to exceed
5 twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, or such
6 further amount as has been or shall be authorized by a vote of the
7 people. Although public hospital districts are authorized to impose
8 two separate regular property tax levies, the levies shall be
9 considered to be a single levy for purposes of the (~~one hundred six~~
10 ~~percent~~)) limitation provided for in chapter 84.55 RCW. Public
11 hospital districts are authorized to levy such a general tax in excess
12 of their regular property taxes when authorized so to do at a special
13 election conducted in accordance with and subject to all of the
14 requirements of the Constitution and the laws of the state of
15 Washington now in force or hereafter enacted governing the limitation
16 of tax levies. The said board of district commissioners is authorized
17 and empowered to call a special election for the purpose of submitting
18 to the qualified voters of the hospital district a proposition or
19 propositions to levy taxes in excess of its regular property taxes.
20 The superintendent shall prepare a proposed budget of the contemplated
21 financial transactions for the ensuing year and file the same in the
22 records of the commission on or before the first Monday in September.
23 Notice of the filing of said proposed budget and the date and place of
24 hearing on the same shall be published for at least two consecutive
25 weeks in a newspaper printed and of general circulation in said county.
26 On the first Monday in October the commission shall hold a public
27 hearing on said proposed budget at which any taxpayer may appear and be
28 heard against the whole or any part of the proposed budget. Upon the
29 conclusion of said hearing, the commission shall, by resolution, adopt
30 the budget as finally determined and fix the final amount of
31 expenditures for the ensuing year. Taxes levied by the commission
32 shall be certified to and collected by the proper county officer of the
33 county in which such public hospital district is located in the same
34 manner as is or may be provided by law for the certification and
35 collection of port district taxes. The commission is authorized, prior
36 to the receipt of taxes raised by levy, to borrow money or issue
37 warrants of the district in anticipation of the revenue to be derived
38 by such district from the levy of taxes for the purpose of such
39 district, and such warrants shall be redeemed from the first money

1 available from such taxes when collected, and such warrants shall not
2 exceed the anticipated revenues of one year, and shall bear interest at
3 a rate or rates as authorized by the commission.

4 (7) To enter into any contract with the United States government or
5 any state, municipality, or other hospital district, or any department
6 of those governing bodies, for carrying out any of the powers
7 authorized by this chapter.

8 (8) To sue and be sued in any court of competent jurisdiction:
9 PROVIDED, That all suits against the public hospital district shall be
10 brought in the county in which the public hospital district is located.

11 (9) To pay actual necessary travel expenses and living expenses
12 incurred while in travel status for (a) qualified physicians who are
13 candidates for medical staff positions, and (b) other qualified persons
14 who are candidates for superintendent or other managerial and technical
15 positions, when the district finds that hospitals or other health care
16 facilities owned and operated by it are not adequately staffed and
17 determines that personal interviews with said candidates to be held in
18 the district are necessary or desirable for the adequate staffing of
19 said facilities.

20 (10) To make contracts, employ superintendents, attorneys, and
21 other technical or professional assistants and all other employees; to
22 make contracts with private or public institutions for employee
23 retirement programs; to print and publish information or literature;
24 and to do all other things necessary to carry out the provisions of
25 this chapter.

26 **Sec. 605.** RCW 84.08.115 and 1991 c 218 s 2 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The department shall prepare a clear and succinct explanation
29 of the property tax system, including but not limited to:

30 (a) The standard of true and fair value as the basis of the
31 property tax.

32 (b) How the assessed value for particular parcels is determined.

33 (c) The procedures and timing of the assessment process.

34 (d) How district levy rates are determined, including the ((~~one~~
35 ~~hundred six percent~~)) limit under chapter 84.55 RCW.

36 (e) How the composite tax rate is determined.

37 (f) How the amount of tax is calculated.

1 (g) How a taxpayer may appeal an assessment, and what issues are
2 appropriate as a basis of appeal.

3 (h) A summary of tax exemption and relief programs, along with the
4 eligibility standards and application processes.

5 (2) Each county assessor shall provide copies of the explanation to
6 taxpayers on request, free of charge. Each revaluation notice shall
7 include information regarding the availability of the explanation.

8 NEW SECTION. Sec. 606. For the purposes of chapters 84.40, 84.41,
9 84.44, 84.48, 84.52, and 84.55 RCW, "true and fair value" and "value"
10 mean:

11 (1) The fair market value of all property in 1995, as assessed;

12 (2) The 1995 value of any new construction or new improvements to
13 real property; and

14 (3) An inflationary rate not to exceed two percent for any given
15 year or a reduction to reflect decline in value.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 607. Assessors shall revalue all real property
17 to 1995 values before taxes for collection in 1999 are levied.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 608. For the purposes of section 606 of this
19 act, new construction or new improvements shall not include any
20 construction, installation, or modification required by any unit of
21 government for any purpose, including but not limited to health and
22 safety.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 609. The method of determining true and fair
24 value for real property in RCW 84.40.030 and for timberland in RCW
25 84.40.033 shall be used for determination of the 1995 true and fair
26 value. Thereafter, true and fair value shall be determined under
27 section 606 of this act.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 610. A new section is added to chapter 84.41
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 The requirements in this chapter for an active program of
31 revaluation shall terminate once all property is revalued at 1995
32 values. Thereafter, county assessors shall maintain an active and
33 systematic program of revaluing only new construction or new

1 improvements to real property to determine 1995 values of such new
2 construction and new improvements.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 611.** A new section is added to chapter 84.41
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The definitions in section 606 of this act apply to this chapter.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 612.** A new section is added to chapter 84.44
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 The definitions in section 606 of this act apply to this chapter.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 613.** A new section is added to chapter 84.48
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 The definitions in section 606 of this act apply to this chapter.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 614.** A new section is added to chapter 84.52
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 The definitions in section 606 of this act apply to this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 615.** A new section is added to chapter 84.55
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 The definitions in section 606 of this act apply to this chapter.

18 **Sec. 616.** RCW 84.41.050 and 1961 c 15 s 84.41.050 are each amended
19 to read as follows:

20 (~~Each county assessor in budgets hereafter submitted, shall make~~
21 ~~adequate provision to effect county wide revaluations as herein~~
22 ~~directed.)) The several boards of county commissioners in passing upon
23 budgets submitted by the several assessors, shall authorize and levy
24 amounts which in the judgment of the boards will suffice to carry out
25 the directions of this chapter.~~

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 617.** The following acts or parts of acts are
27 each repealed:

28 (1) RCW 84.41.030 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 46 s 1, 1971 ex.s. c 288 s
29 6, & 1961 c 15 s 84.41.030;

30 (2) RCW 84.41.041 and 1987 c 319 s 4, 1982 1st ex.s. c 46 s 2, 1979
31 ex.s. c 214 s 9, & 1974 ex.s. c 131 s 2;

1 (3) RCW 84.41.070 and 1994 c 301 s 40, 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 198,
2 & 1961 c 15 s 84.41.070; and

3 (4) RCW 84.41.130 and 1974 1st ex.s. c 278 s 203 & 1961 c 15 s
4 84.41.130.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 618.** Sections 606 through 609 of this act are
6 each added to chapter 84.40 RCW.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 619.** In order to assure that the long-term
8 stability of the valuation system established in this act is not
9 subject to repeated statutory changes, the legislature shall propose
10 any changes as may be necessary by amendment to the state Constitution
11 pursuant to its authority in Article XXIII of the state Constitution."

12 On page 11, after line 28, insert the following:

13 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 601.** This act shall be submitted to the people
14 for their adoption and ratification, or rejection, at the next
15 succeeding general election to be held in this state, in accordance
16 with Article II, section 1 of the state Constitution, as amended, and
17 the laws adopted to facilitate the operation thereof."

18 Renumber the remaining sections and part heading consecutively and
19 correct any internal references and the title accordingly.

--- END ---