

2 **SSB 6530** - H AMD TO GOVT COMM AMD (H5333.1) **455**
3 By Representatives Crouse, D. Sommers and others

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5 On page 1, after line 13 of the amendment, insert the following:

6 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.32 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the
9 voters of any county with a population of three hundred fifty thousand
10 or more that does not operate under a home rule charter shall possess
11 the direct legislative powers through initiative and referendum on any
12 matter within the scope of the powers, functions, or duties of the
13 county.

14 (2) Ordinances of such a county shall become effective thirty days
15 after their adoption, and are subject to a referendum petition being
16 filed during the interim, except:

17 (a) Ordinances initiated by petition;

18 (b) Ordinances necessary for immediate preservation of public
19 peace, health, and safety or for the support of county government and
20 its existing public institutions which contain a statement of urgency
21 and provide that the ordinance becomes effective either immediately
22 upon adoption or at a date less than thirty days after its adoption;

23 (c) Ordinances providing for road improvement districts, local
24 improvement districts, or utility local improvement districts;

25 (d) Ordinances appropriating money;

26 (e) Ordinances providing for or approving collective bargaining;

27 (f) Ordinances providing for the compensation of or working
28 conditions of county employees; or

29 (g) Ordinances authorizing or repealing the levy of taxes.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 36.32 RCW
31 to read as follows:

32 Initiative petitions proposing the adoption of an ordinance must be
33 signed by county registered voters equal in number to at least twenty
34 percent of the number of county voters voting at the last state general
35 election and may not be circulated for more than one hundred eighty

1 days. Referendum petitions must be signed by county registered voters
2 equal in number to at least fifteen percent of the number of county
3 voters voting at the last state general election and must be filed with
4 the county auditor no later than 5:00 p.m., thirty days after the
5 ordinance that is being subjected to referendum was adopted. The
6 petitions shall be filed with the county auditor who shall review the
7 signatures and certify the sufficiency of the signatures. If it
8 appears that the same registered voter signed the petitions more than
9 once, only the first signature shall be counted.

10 The county auditor shall notify the county legislative authority if
11 the initiative petitions are certified as having sufficient valid
12 signatures and the county legislative authority shall either adopt the
13 proposed ordinance, as proposed, or shall cause the initiative to be
14 submitted to county voters for their approval or rejection at the next
15 state general election occurring forty-five or more days after the
16 petitions were certified as having sufficient valid signatures.

17 If the referendum petitions are certified as having sufficient
18 valid signatures, the ordinance that is being subjected to referendum
19 shall not become effective, shall be held in abeyance, and shall be
20 submitted to the county voters for their approval or rejection at the
21 next state general election that occurs forty-five or more days after
22 the petitions were certified as having sufficient valid signatures.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 36.32 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 Each initiative petition shall include the text of the proposed
26 ordinance and shall indicate that an initiative is being proposed.
27 Each referendum petition shall include the text of the ordinance that
28 is proposed to be subjected to referendum and shall indicate that a
29 referendum is being proposed.

30 Each petition shall include numbered lines and provide space on
31 each numbered line for a voter to sign the petition, print his or her
32 name, insert his or her residential address, and indicate the date he
33 or she signed the petition. Each petition shall include the warning
34 that:

35 "Every person who signs this petition with any other than his
36 or her true name, knowingly signs more than one of these
37 petitions, signs this petition when he or she is not a
38 registered voter residing in the county, or makes any false

1 statement on the petition may be punished by fine or
2 imprisonment or both."

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 36.32 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 An ordinance that is submitted to voters as a initiative measure,
6 or that is referred to voters as a referendum measure, shall be adopted
7 if approved by a simple majority vote of county voters voting on the
8 ballot measure. Unless the ordinance provides for a differing
9 effective date, an ordinance that is approved by county voters shall
10 become effective on the date the results of the election are certified
11 that voters approved the ordinance."

12 Renumber the sections consecutively and correct any internal
13 references accordingly.

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15 By Representative Crouse

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17 On page 16, line 8 of the title amendment, after "36.88.010;"
18 insert "adding new sections to chapter 36.32 RCW;"

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