
SENATE BILL 5820

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senator Patterson

Read first time 02/14/97. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to city and town utility taxes; amending RCW
2 35.21.870; and repealing RCW 35.21.871 and 35A.82.070.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.21.870 and 1984 c 225 s 6 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 ~~((1) No))~~ After the effective date of this act, a city or town may
7 not impose a tax or increase the rate of tax on the privilege of
8 conducting an electrical energy, natural gas, steam energy, or
9 telephone business ~~((at a rate which exceeds six percent))~~ unless the
10 rate is first approved by a majority of the voters of the city or town
11 voting on such a proposition.

12 ~~((2) If a city or town is imposing a rate of tax under subsection~~
13 ~~(1) of this section in excess of six percent on April 20, 1982, the~~
14 ~~city or town shall decrease the rate to a rate of six percent or less~~
15 ~~by reducing the rate each year on or before November 1st by ordinances~~
16 ~~to be effective on January 1st of the succeeding year, by an amount~~
17 ~~equal to one-tenth the difference between the tax rate on April 20,~~
18 ~~1982, and six percent.~~

1 ~~Nothing in this subsection prohibits a city or town from reducing~~
2 ~~its rates by amounts greater than the amounts required in this~~
3 ~~subsection.~~

4 ~~Voter approved rate increases under subsection (1) of this section~~
5 ~~shall not be included in the computations under this subsection.))~~

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The following acts or parts of acts are each
7 repealed:

8 (1) RCW 35.21.871 and 1986 c 70 s 3; and

9 (2) RCW 35A.82.070 and 1986 c 70 s 6.

--- END ---