
SENATE BILL 5043

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Jacobsen, Fairley, Keiser, Regala, Hatfield, Berkey, Fraser, Sheldon, Poulsen, Rasmussen and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/08/2007. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to dedicating a portion of the state property tax
2 levy to state parks; amending RCW 84.52.043, 84.52.065, and 79A.05.215;
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.52.043 and 2005 c 122 s 3 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Within and subject to the limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 as
8 amended, the regular ad valorem tax levies upon real and personal
9 property by the taxing districts hereafter named shall be as follows:

10 (1) Levies of the senior taxing districts shall be as follows: (a)
11 The levy by the state shall not exceed three dollars and sixty cents
12 per thousand dollars of assessed value adjusted to the state equalized
13 value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state
14 department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of the
15 common schools and state parks; (b) the levy by any county shall not
16 exceed one dollar and eighty cents per thousand dollars of assessed
17 value; (c) the levy by any road district shall not exceed two dollars
18 and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; and (d)
19 the levy by any city or town shall not exceed three dollars and thirty-

1 seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value.
2 However any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from one
3 dollar and eighty cents to a rate not to exceed two dollars and forty-
4 seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for
5 general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and any
6 road district within the county do not exceed four dollars and five
7 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and no other taxing
8 district has its levy reduced as a result of the increased county levy.

9 (2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior
10 taxing districts, other than the state, shall not exceed five dollars
11 and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The term
12 "junior taxing districts" includes all taxing districts other than the
13 state, counties, road districts, cities, towns, port districts, and
14 public utility districts. The limitations provided in this subsection
15 shall not apply to: (a) Levies at the rates provided by existing law
16 by or for any port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax
17 levies authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution;
18 (c) levies for acquiring conservation futures as authorized under RCW
19 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical
20 services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies to finance affordable
21 housing for very low-income housing imposed under RCW 84.52.105; (f)
22 the portions of levies by metropolitan park districts that are
23 protected under RCW 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by ferry districts
24 under RCW 36.54.130; (h) levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW
25 84.52.135; and (i) the portions of levies by fire protection districts
26 that are protected under RCW 84.52.125.

27 **Sec. 2.** RCW 84.52.065 and 1991 sp.s. c 31 s 16 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 (1) Subject to the limitations in RCW 84.55.010, in each year the
30 state shall levy for collection in the following year for the support
31 of common schools of the state, and state parks as prescribed in
32 subsection (2) of this section, a tax of three dollars and sixty cents
33 per thousand dollars of assessed value upon the assessed valuation of
34 all taxable property within the state adjusted to the state equalized
35 value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state
36 department of revenue.

1 (2) One cent per thousand dollars of assessed value from the state
2 property tax levy shall be deposited into the state parks renewal and
3 stewardship account created in RCW 79A.05.215.

4 (3) As used in this section, "the support of common schools"
5 includes the payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued for
6 capital construction projects for the common schools.

7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 79A.05.215 and 1995 c 211 s 7 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 The state parks renewal and stewardship account is created in the
10 state treasury. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all
11 receipts from the portion of the state property tax levy dedicated to
12 parks, user fees, concessions, leases, and other state park-based
13 activities shall be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the
14 account may be used for operating state parks, developing and
15 renovating park facilities, undertaking deferred maintenance, enhancing
16 park stewardship, and other state park purposes. Expenditures from the
17 account may be made only after appropriation by the legislature.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect for taxes due in 2008
19 and thereafter, if the proposed amendment to Article IX, section 2 of
20 the state Constitution (Senate Joint Resolution No., S-0220/07)
21 regarding funding for state parks is validly submitted to and is
22 approved and ratified by the voters at the next general election. If
23 the proposed amendment is not approved and ratified, this act is void
24 in its entirety.

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