
HOUSE BILL 2649

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer and Roberts

Read first time 01/20/12. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to county property tax levies; and amending RCW
2 71.20.110 and 73.08.080.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.20.110 and 1988 c 176 s 910 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) In order to provide additional funds for the coordination and
7 provision of community services for persons with developmental
8 disabilities or mental health services, the county governing authority
9 of each county in the state (~~shall~~) must budget and levy annually a
10 tax in a sum equal to the amount which would be raised by a levy of two
11 and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value against the
12 taxable property in the county to be used for such purposes(~~(+~~
13 ~~PROVIDED, That~~)). However, all or part of the funds collected from the
14 tax levied for the purposes of this section may be transferred to the
15 state of Washington, department of social and health services, for the
16 purpose of obtaining federal matching funds to provide and coordinate
17 community services for persons with developmental disabilities and
18 mental health services. In the event a county elects to transfer such
19 tax funds to the state for this purpose, the state (~~shall~~) must grant

1 these moneys and the additional funds received as matching funds to
2 service-providing community agencies or community boards in the county
3 which has made such transfer, pursuant to the plan approved by the
4 county, as provided by chapters 71.24 and 71.28 RCW and by chapter
5 71A.14 RCW, all as now or hereafter amended.

6 (2) The amount of a levy allocated to the purposes specified in
7 this section may be reduced in the same proportion as the regular
8 property tax levy of the county is reduced by chapter 84.55 RCW or may
9 be increased or reduced in the same proportion as the regular property
10 tax levy of the county is increased or reduced by action of the county
11 legislative authority.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 73.08.080 and 2005 c 250 s 6 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 (1) The legislative authority in each county (~~shall~~) must levy,
15 in addition to the taxes now levied by law, a tax in a sum equal to the
16 amount which would be raised by not less than one and one-eighth cents
17 per thousand dollars of assessed value, and not greater than twenty-
18 seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value against the taxable
19 property of their respective counties, to be levied and collected as
20 now prescribed by law for the assessment and collection of taxes, for
21 the purpose of creating a veterans' assistance fund. Expenditures from
22 the veterans' assistance fund, and interest earned on balances from the
23 fund, may be used only for:

24 (a) The veterans' assistance programs authorized by RCW 73.08.010;

25 (b) The burial or cremation of a deceased indigent veteran or
26 deceased family member of an indigent veteran as authorized by RCW
27 73.08.070; and

28 (c) The direct and indirect costs incurred in the administration of
29 the fund as authorized by subsection (2) of this section.

30 (2) If the funds on deposit in the veterans' assistance fund, less
31 outstanding warrants, on the first Tuesday in September exceed the
32 expected yield of one and one-eighth cents per thousand dollars of
33 assessed value against the taxable property of the county, the county
34 legislative authority may levy a lesser amount. The direct and
35 indirect costs incurred in the administration of the veterans'
36 assistance fund (~~shall~~) must be computed by the county auditor, or
37 the chief financial officer in a county operating under a charter, not

1 less than annually. Following the computation of these direct and
2 indirect costs, an amount equal to these costs may then be transferred
3 from the veterans' assistance fund to the county current expense fund.

4 (3) The amount of a levy allocated to the purposes specified in
5 this section may be reduced in the same proportion as the regular
6 property tax levy of the county is reduced by chapter 84.55 RCW or may
7 be increased or reduced in the same proportion as the regular property
8 tax levy of the county is increased or reduced by action of the county
9 legislative authority.

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