

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5088

As of January 25, 2013

Title: An act relating to the equal distribution of votes within certain taxing districts.

Brief Description: Concerning the equal distribution of votes within certain taxing districts.

Sponsors: Senators Benton, Rivers, Holmquist Newbry, Honeyford and Becker.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Governmental Operations: 1/28/13.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Staff: Sam Thompson (786-7413)

Background: A 2009 act authorized transit agencies in border counties with populations over 400,000, currently Clark and Spokane counties, to establish independent local government entities called high capacity transportation corridor areas (HCTCAs) to finance and operate transit services in urbanized areas. An HCTCA may be smaller than the area served by the transit agency.

An HCTCA may use varied revenue sources to finance operations, including sales and use taxes, if authorized by voters in the HCTCA. They may also issue general obligation bonds. As of yet, no HCTCA has been established.

Summary of Bill: It is the intent of the Legislature that when a transit agency plans to raise revenue requiring voter approval to create a high capacity transportation system, all eligible voters within the transit agency's boundaries must have the opportunity to vote.

Provisions authorizing HCTCAs and granting them authority to issue bonds are repealed.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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