
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1488

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Llias, Sawyer, Cody, Farrell, Roberts, Fey, Stanford, Pollet, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Van De Wege, Tarleton, Santos, and Bergquist)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to voter-approved benefit charges for fire
2 protection districts; and amending RCW 52.18.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 52.18.050 and 1998 c 16 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) (~~Any~~) The initial imposition of a benefit charge authorized
7 by this chapter shall not be effective unless a proposition to impose
8 the benefit charge is approved by a sixty percent majority of the
9 voters of the district voting at a general election or at a special
10 election called by the district for that purpose, held within the fire
11 protection district. An election held pursuant to this section for the
12 initial imposition of a benefit charge shall be held not more than
13 twelve months prior to the date on which the first such charge is to be
14 assessed: PROVIDED, That (~~a~~) an initial or reapproved benefit charge
15 approved at an election shall not remain in effect for a period of more
16 than six years nor more than the number of years authorized by the
17 voters if fewer than six years unless subsequently reapproved by the
18 voters.

1 (2) The ballot measure calling for the initial imposition of a
2 benefit charge shall be submitted so as to enable ((the)) voters
3 favoring the authorization of a fire protection district benefit charge
4 to vote "Yes" and those opposed thereto to vote "No," and the ballot
5 shall be:

6 "Shall county fire protection district No.
7 be authorized to impose benefit charges each year for
8 (insert number of years not to exceed six) years, not to exceed
9 an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and
10 be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under
11 RCW 52.16.160?

12 YES NO
13

14 (3) ~~((Districts renewing the benefit charge may elect to use the~~
15 ~~following alternative ballot))~~ (a) The continued imposition of a
16 benefit charge authorized by this chapter must be approved by a
17 majority of the voters of the district voting at a general election or
18 at a special election called by the district for that purpose, held
19 within the fire protection district.

20 (b) Ballot measures calling for the continued imposition of a
21 benefit charge must be submitted so as to enable voters favoring the
22 continued imposition of a benefit charge to vote "Yes" and those
23 opposed to vote "No." The ballot question must be substantially in the
24 following form:

25 "Shall county fire protection district No.
26 be authorized to continue voter-authorized benefit charges each
27 year for (insert number of years not to exceed six)
28 years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its
29 operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional
30 property tax under RCW 52.16.160?

31 YES NO
32

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