H-1657.	. 1		

HOUSE BILL 1967

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer, Sullivan, Haler, Crouse, and Maxwell Read first time 02/26/13. Referred to Committee on Finance.

AN ACT Relating to community redevelopment financing in apportionment districts; amending RCW 39.88.030, 39.88.040, 39.88.070, 39.88.080, 39.88.100, 84.52.043, 84.52.043, and 84.52.050; reenacting and amending RCW 39.88.020; adding a new section to chapter 39.88 RCW; repealing RCW 39.88.060 and 39.88.090; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 8 Sec. 1. RCW 39.88.020 and 2011 c 336 s 815 are each reenacted and 9 amended to read as follows:
 - ((As used in this chapter the following terms have the following meanings unless a different meaning is clearly indicated by the context:)) The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
 - (1) "Apportionment district" means the geographic area, within an urban area, from which ((regular property taxes are to be apportioned to finance a public improvement contained therein.
- 17 (2) "Assessed value of real property" means the valuation of real 18 property as placed on the last completed assessment roll of the county.
- 19 (3) "City" means any city or town.

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p. 1 HB 1967

(4) "Ordinance" means any appropriate method of taking a legislative action by a county or city, whether known as a statute, resolution, ordinance, or otherwise.

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- (5) "Public improvement" means an undertaking to provide public facilities in an urban area which the sponsor has authority to provide.
- (6) "Public improvement costs" means the costs of design, planning, acquisition, site preparation, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, and installation of the public improvement; costs of relocation, maintenance, and operation of property pending construction of the public improvement; costs of utilities relocated as a result of the public improvement; costs of financing, including interest during construction, legal and other professional services, taxes, and insurance; costs incurred by the assessor to revalue real property for the purpose of determining the tax allocation base value that are in excess of costs incurred by the assessor in accordance with his or her revaluation plan under chapter 84.41 RCW, and the costs of apportioning the taxes and complying with this chapter and other applicable law; and administrative costs reasonably necessary and related to these costs. These costs may include costs incurred prior to the adoption of the public improvement ordinance, but subsequent to July 10, 1982.
- (7) "Public improvement ordinance" means the ordinance passed under RCW 39.88.040(4).
- (8) "Regular property taxes" means regular property taxes as now or hereafter defined in RCW 84.04.140, except regular property taxes levied by port districts or public utility districts specifically for the purpose of making required payments of principal and interest on general indebtedness.
- (9) "Sponsor" means any county or city initiating and undertaking a public improvement.
- (10) "Tax allocation base value of real property" means the true and fair value of real property within an apportionment district for the year in which the apportionment district was established.
- (11) "Tax allocation bonds" means any bonds, notes, or other obligations issued by a sponsor pursuant to section 10 of this act.
- (12) "Tax allocation revenues" means those tax revenues allocated to a sponsor under RCW 39.88.070(1)(b).

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- (13) "Taxing districts" means any governmental entity which levies or has levied for it regular property taxes upon real property located within a proposed or approved apportionment district.
- (14) "Urban area" means an area in a city or located outside of a city that is characterized by intensive use of the land for the location of structures and receiving such urban services as sewers, water, and other public utilities and services normally associated with urbanized areas. Not more than twenty-five percent of the area within the urban area proposed apportionment district may be vacant land.
- (15) "Value of taxable property" means value of taxable property as defined in RCW 39.36.015)) special property taxes are to be levied and collected to finance a public improvement contained therein.
 - (2) "City" means any city or town.

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- (3) "Community benefit activities" means activities undertaken to meet the affordable housing, conservation, social equity, and other public goals as described in section 2 of this act.
 - (4) "County" means any county of the state of Washington.
- (5) "Ordinance" means an ordinance, resolution, or any other appropriate method of taking a legislative action by the legislative authority of a county or city, whether known as a statute, resolution, ordinance, or otherwise.
- (6) "Public improvement costs" means capital expenditures with respect to public improvements, including without limitation the costs of design, planning, acquisition, site preparation, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, and installation of the public improvement; costs of relocation, maintenance, and operation of property pending construction of the public improvement; costs of relocating utilities in connection with undertaking the public improvement; costs of financing, including interest during and for a reasonable period after construction, legal and other professional services, taxes, and insurance; costs of levying and collecting the special property taxes and complying with this chapter and other applicable law; costs of operating and maintaining the public improvement; and administrative costs reasonably necessary and related to these costs. These costs may include costs incurred prior to the adoption of the public improvement ordinance but may not include costs that are satisfied by revenues from impact fees or other development fees.

p. 3 HB 1967

- 1 (7) "Public improvement ordinance" means an ordinance passed under 2 RCW 39.88.040(4).
 - (8) "Public improvements" means:
- 4 (a) Public infrastructure improvements, including acquisition,
- 5 construction, improvement, expansion, extension, or maintenance of the following:
- 7 (i) Street, road, bridge, and rail improvements;
- 8 (ii) Water and sewer systems;
- 9 (iii) Sidewalks, streetlights, landscaping, and streetscaping;
- 10 (iv) Parking, terminal, and dock facilities;
- 11 (v) Park and ride facilities;
- 12 <u>(vi) Park facilities, recreational areas, and environmental</u>
 13 remediation activities;
- (vii) Storm water and drainage management systems; and
- 15 (viii) Electric, gas, fiber, and other utility infrastructure; and
- (b) Expenditures for any of the following purposes:
- (i) Providing maintenance and security for public improvements or
- 18 <u>for common or public areas in the apportionment district;</u>
- 19 <u>(ii) Historic preservation assets and activities authorized under</u>
- 20 RCW 35.21.395; or

- 21 (iii) Costs of establishing and administering the apportionment
- 22 <u>district</u>, including without limitation the costs of data collection,
- 23 reporting, and accountability activities.
- 24 <u>(9) "Regular property taxes" means regular property taxes as now or</u> 25 hereafter defined in RCW 84.04.140.
- 26 (10) "Special property taxes" means the special property taxes
- 27 <u>authorized to be levied and collected within an apportionment district</u>
- 28 <u>under RCW 39.88.070.</u> Special property taxes are not regular property
 29 taxes for any purpose under this chapter or under any other provision
- 29 <u>taxes for any purpose under this chapter or under any other provision</u> 30 of law, but special property taxes are "excess real property taxes" for
- purposes of RCW 84.36.381 through 84.36.389, are "real property taxes"
- for purposes of chapters 84.37 and 84.38 RCW, are "property taxes" for
- 33 purposes of chapter 84.39 RCW, and also constitute "ad valorem"
- taxation" as that term is used in RCW 84.33.040.
- 35 (11) "Sponsor" means any county or city forming an apportionment 36 district under this chapter.
- 37 (12) "Tax allocation base value" means the value of taxable

- property within an apportionment district for the year in which the public improvement ordinance is passed.
- 3 (13) "Tax allocation bonds" means any bonds, notes, or other 4 obligations issued or incurred by a sponsor pursuant to RCW 39.88.100.
- (14) "Tax allocation increment value" means, as of any time of calculation, the value of taxable property in an apportionment district in excess of the tax allocation base value within that apportionment district.
- 9 (15) "Tax allocation revenues" means those special property tax 10 revenues levied and collected by a sponsor under RCW 39.88.070(1).
- 11 (16) "Taxing districts" means any governmental entity which levies 12 or has levied for it regular property taxes upon real property located 13 within a proposed or approved apportionment district.
- 14 <u>(17) "Urban area" means an area (a) in a city or (b) located</u>
 15 <u>outside of a city within an urban eligible area.</u>
- 16 (18) "Urban eligible area" means an area inside an urban growth
 17 area as defined in RCW 36.70A.030 that is a growth center, a
 18 transportation center, or a local center. For purposes of this
 19 subsection:
 - (a) "Growth center" means an area that is designated as a mixed-use, manufacturing, or urban center in a land use or transportation plan adopted by a regional transportation planning organization or an adopted multicounty or countywide planning policy.
 - (b) "Transportation center" means an area that is within one-half mile walking distance of:
 - (i) A station where passengers can access a high capacity transportation system such as a ferry system, airport, fixed guideway rail system, or designated bus rapid transit line; or
- 29 <u>(ii) A stop for a bus or other transit mode providing fixed route</u> 30 <u>service in intervals of at least every thirty minutes during peak</u> 31 morning commute hours of six to nine.
 - (c) "Local center" means an area that is:

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- (i) Designated as a center in the local comprehensive plan;
- (ii) Zoned to provide for medium or high-density mixed-use or industrial development; and
- 36 <u>(iii) Not zoned to permit low-density commercial development with</u>
 37 a floor area ratio of one or less.

p. 5 HB 1967

1 (19) "Value of taxable property" means value of taxable property as 2 defined in RCW 39.36.015.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 39.88 RCW to read as follows:

- (1) Prior to imposing the special tax authorized in RCW 39.88.070, a sponsor must adopt an ordinance in accordance with subsection (3) of this section, dedicating to the funding of community benefit activities an amount equal to twenty percent of the maximum stated principal amount of tax allocation bonds expected to be issued as set forth in the public improvement ordinance. Amounts dedicated to community benefit activities must be in addition to those treated as having been expended on public improvement costs under this chapter. The community benefit funding requirement must be satisfied in accordance with the periodic goals set forth in that ordinance.
- 15 (2)(a) For purposes of this chapter, community benefit activities 16 include:
 - (i) Activities supporting development of low and moderate-income housing within walking or transit-connected distance of the apportionment district;
 - (ii) The conservation of open space, forest lands, and farmlands including, but not limited to, the transfer of development rights or the acquisition for conservation purposes of lands or conservation interests therein, which bear a nexus to the location of the apportionment district. Such a nexus may include without limitation, location within the same watershed, designation as corresponding sending and receiving sites for transfer of development rights under chapter 39.108 RCW, or other similar environmental nexus. Any city that is a receiving city in an eligible county, as those terms are defined in RCW 39.108.010, must comply with subsection (8) of this section;
 - (iii) Other similar activities that further the sponsor's affordable housing, environmental and other social equity, and other public goals described in an ordinance passed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section. Such goals may include, without limitation: Retaining small businesses within the apportionment district; workforce development and supporting fair labor practices within the apportionment district; increasing the energy efficiency and efficiency

of use of water, wastewater, and other natural resources within the apportionment district; and other activities intended to increase social equity.

- (b) The aggregate community benefit funding requirement must be allocated among these purposes in the following proportions:
- (i) At least fifty percent of the total amount must be dedicated to the purposes under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section;
- (ii) At least twenty percent of the total amount must be dedicated to the purposes under subsection (2)(a)(ii) of this section; and
- (iii) The remaining thirty percent must be dedicated to a combination of one or more of the purposes described in subsection (2)(a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section.
- (3) The sponsor's legislative authority must adopt an ordinance after opportunity for public comment, which sets periodic goals for the timing of funding community benefit activities during successive reporting periods of up to five calendar years each:
- (a) The first such reporting period must begin with the calendar year during which the special property tax under RCW 39.88.070 is first collected. The last such required reporting period ends with the earlier of:
- (i) The last calendar year during which the special property tax authorized in RCW 39.88.070 is collected; or
- 23 (ii) The total community benefit funding requirement has been 24 satisfied.
 - (b) In setting the funding goals, the sponsor may take into account projected revenues of the special property tax, projected debt service coverage ratios set forth in covenants made or entered into in connection with the issuance of tax allocation bonds, and other relevant factors. For the purposes of this subsection, "debt service coverage ratio" means the ratio of projected tax allocation revenues to the expected aggregate annual debt service on tax allocation bonds.
 - (c) At a minimum, the funding goals must provide that within the first year of the first reporting period, an amount equal to five percent of the maximum stated principal amount of tax allocation bonds expected to be issued, as set forth in the public improvement ordinance, must be dedicated to the acquisition of real property, or an interest therein, to be made available for the development of low and moderate-income housing within walking or transit-connected distance of

p. 7 HB 1967

- the apportionment district. A sponsor may meet this goal by depositing such amount with the Washington state housing finance commission, created under chapter 43.180 RCW, with a public housing authority, or by acquiring the real property directly. This amount is deemed a portion of the allocation dedicated to the purposes under subsection (2)(b)(i) of this section.
 - (d) The ordinance may be combined with the public improvement ordinance or may be a separate ordinance.

- (4) A sponsor is held accountable for meeting its periodic community benefit funding goals as follows:
- (a) As soon as practicable after the June 1st that follows the end of each reporting period, the finance officer or other administrative officer of the sponsor must report to the legislative authority of the sponsor at a regular meeting on the amount dedicated by the sponsor to community benefit activities under this section on an annual basis and in total over the preceding reporting period. The report must also include a description of the sponsor's goals for timing of dedication of community benefit funding over the preceding reporting period and the total goals set forth in the ordinance adopted pursuant to subsection (3) of this section. After receiving the report, the legislative body must make a determination as to whether the sponsor has met its goals over that reporting period.
- (b) If a sponsor determines that it has not met its goals for funding community benefit activities over the reporting period, or if a taxpayer challenge under (c) of this subsection is upheld, then on or before the next January 1st, the sponsor must pay the amount by which the sponsor fell short of its goal for that period, in accordance with the proportional allocation established under subsection (3)(b) of this section, for the purposes of furthering the community benefit activities described in the ordinance adopted under subsection (3) of this section, as follows for the purposes of:
- (i) Meeting any obligation to fund the activities under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section, to the housing trust fund created pursuant to chapter 43.185 RCW, to the housing finance commission created pursuant to chapter 43.180 RCW, or to a local housing authority;
- (ii) Meeting obligations pursuant to subsection (2)(a)(ii) of this section, to a rural conservation fund established by the sponsor or to a qualified county agency or accredited land trust; and

(iii) Furthering the social equity and other public goals described in subsection (2)(a)(iii) of this section and the ordinance adopted under subsection (3) of this section, to a loan fund operated by the department of commerce or the department of ecology for purposes of funding toxics cleanup or energy efficiency improvements, to the sustainable energy trust program created pursuant to RCW 43.180.260, or to an instrumentality or fund established by the state or a local government.

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- (c) Any person who pays the special property tax levied within the apportionment district may challenge the sponsor's determination that it has met its community benefit activity funding goals during the preceding reporting period by filing an objection with the clerk of the sponsor's legislative body within thirty days after the date of the sponsor's determination. Upon receipt of such an objection, the clerk must forward such objection to the chair of the legislative body who must schedule, at the next practicable opportunity, a public hearing at which the matter of the community benefit funding goals must be heard. Notice of the public hearing must be mailed to the taxpayer submitting the objection and must be given in accordance with the requirements for giving notice of a special meeting under RCW 42.30.080. If, after due consideration, the legislative body determines that the sponsor has not met the community benefit funding goals, the remedy in (b) of this subsection applies. If the legislative body determines that the sponsor has met the community benefit funding goals, the taxpayer has the right to bring action in superior court to compel payment of the amounts required under (b) of this subsection.
- (5) The legislative authority of a sponsor may periodically amend the community benefit funding goals after opportunity for public comment, so long as the overall goals remain consistent with the allocation requirements of subsection (2) of this section. If a sponsor has not issued the maximum amount of tax allocation bonds set forth in the public improvement ordinance by the date that is five years after that ordinance was passed, the legislative body may by ordinance revise downward the maximum expected amount of such bonds and the amounts required to be dedicated to the community benefit funding goals must be adjusted accordingly.
- (6) The community benefit funding requirement expires at the earlier of thirty years after the special property tax under RCW

p. 9 HB 1967

39.88.070 is first collected or when the total community benefit funding requirement has been satisfied. A sponsor may at any time satisfy all or a portion of its community benefit funding requirement by contributing money, in accordance with the allocations pursuant to subsection (2) of this section to one or more of the entities listed in subsection (4)(b) of this section.

- (7) Nothing in this section may permit expenditures of public funds prohibited by Article VIII, section 5 or 7 of the state Constitution. Nothing in this section may be interpreted to grant to any sponsor the authority to engage in any community benefit activities that are not otherwise authorized to be undertaken by the sponsor.
- (8)(a) If the sponsor is a city that is a receiving city, as defined in RCW 39.108.010, then in the ordinance adopted under this section, the city must:
- (i) Determine the number of transferable development rights that could be acquired, at the time that the special tax under this section is first imposed, by the use of the amount of money to be dedicated to the conservation purposes described under subsection (2)(b)(ii) of this section; and
- 20 (ii) Set periodic goals for use by landowners or for purchase by 21 the city of the number of transferable development rights within the 22 city in accordance with subsection (3) of this section.
 - (b) Actual use by a landowner, or by purchase by the city, of such transferable development rights is an alternative method of meeting the conservation funding goal described under subsection (2)(b)(ii) of this section.
 - (c) Nothing in this section may require a sponsor to dedicate money to the purchase of transferable development rights in excess of the dollar amount that would otherwise be required to be dedicated to conservation purposes under subsection (2)(b)(ii) of this section.
 - Sec. 3. RCW 39.88.030 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
- 33 (1) Only public improvements which are determined by the 34 legislative authority of the sponsor to meet the following criteria are 35 eligible to be financed under this chapter:
 - (a) The public improvement is located within an urban area;

1 (b) The public improvement will encourage private development 2 within the apportionment district;

- (c) The public improvement will increase the ((fair market))
 assessed value of the real property located within the apportionment
 district;
- (d) The private development which is anticipated to occur within the apportionment district as a result of the public improvement is consistent with an existing comprehensive land use plan and approved growth policies of the jurisdiction within which it is located;
- (e) A public improvement located within a city has been approved by the legislative authority of such city; and
- (f) A public improvement located ((within an urban area)) in an unincorporated area has been approved by the legislative authority of the county within whose boundaries the ((area lies.
- (2) Apportionment of regular property tax revenues to finance the public improvements is subject to the following limitations:
- (a) No apportionment of regular property tax revenues may take place within a previously established apportionment district where regular property taxes are still apportioned to finance public improvements without the concurrence of the sponsor which established the district;
- (b) No apportionment district may be established which includes any geographic area included within a previously established apportionment district which has outstanding bonds payable in whole or in part from tax allocation revenues;
- (c) The total amount of outstanding bonds payable in whole or in part from tax allocation revenues arising from property located within a city shall not exceed two percent of the value of taxable property within the city, and the total amount of outstanding bonds payable in whole or in part from tax allocation revenues arising from property located within the unincorporated areas of a county shall not exceed two percent of the value of taxable property within the entire unincorporated area of the county; and
- (d) No taxes other than regular property taxes may be apportioned under this chapter.
- 36 (3) Public improvements)) apportionment district lies and by the
 37 legislative authority of a city having a nexus to the urban growth area
 38 in which the apportionment district lies, if any.

p. 11 HB 1967

(2) The levying and collection of special property tax revenues to finance the public improvements may take place within a previously established apportionment district where special property taxes are still levied and collected to finance public improvements without the concurrence of the sponsor which established the previously established district.

- (3) Public improvements and community benefit activities may be undertaken and coordinated with other programs or efforts undertaken by the sponsor or others and may be funded in whole or in part from sources other than those provided by this chapter.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 39.88.040 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Public improvements funded by tax allocation revenues may only be located within ((an urban area. In order to secure an allocation of regular property taxes to finance a public improvement, a sponsor shall:
 - (1) Propose by ordinance a plan for the public improvement which includes a description of the contemplated public improvement, the estimated cost thereof, the boundaries of the apportionment district, the estimated period during which tax revenue apportionment is contemplated, and the ways in which the sponsor plans to use tax allocation revenues to finance the public improvement, and which sets at least three public hearings thereon before the legislative authority of the sponsor or a committee thereof: PROVIDED, That public hearings for the public improvement that is undertaken in combination or coordination by two or more sponsors may be held jointly; and public hearings, held before the legislative authority or a committee of a majority thereof may be combined with public hearings held for other purposes;
 - (2) At least fifteen days in advance of the hearing:
 - (a) Deliver notice of the hearing to all taxing districts, the county treasurer, and the county assessor, which notice includes a map or drawing showing the location of the contemplated public improvement and the boundaries of the proposed apportionment district, a brief description of the public improvement, the estimated cost thereof, the anticipated increase in property values within the apportionment district, the location of the sponsor's principal business office where

it will maintain information concerning the public improvement)) or serve an apportionment district. In order to levy and collect special property taxes to finance a public improvement, a sponsor must:

- (a)(i) Propose by ordinance a plan for the public improvements that includes: A description of the contemplated public improvements and the estimated costs thereof; the boundaries of the apportionment district; the maximum period (not to exceed thirty years), during which the special property tax is to be levied and collected; the maximum aggregate stated principal amount of tax allocation bonds expected to be issued, not including accreted value of capital appreciation bonds; the anticipated level of funding for community benefit activities under section 2 of this act; and the ways in which the sponsor plans to use special property tax revenues to finance the public improvements.
- 14 <u>(i) The public improvement ordinance must also include the</u> 15 following findings:
 - (A) The public improvements proposed to be financed in whole or in part using apportionment district financing that are expected to:

 Encourage private development within the apportionment district and to increase the assessed value of real property within the apportionment district; improve the viability of existing business entities; or increase employment or affordable housing availability proximate to the apportionment district;
 - (B) Private development that is anticipated to occur within the apportionment district as a result of the public improvements is consistent with:
 - (I) The countywide planning policy adopted by the county under RCW 36.70A.210;
 - (II) The sponsor's comprehensive plan; and
- 29 (III) Development regulations adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW;
- 30 (C) The use of the financing tool under this chapter must promote 31 economic development or redevelopment within the apportionment district 32 and the sponsor must meet the requirements for funding community 33 benefit activities under section 2 of this act; and
 - (D) The proposed apportionment district may not be used for the purpose of encouraging the relocation of a business from outside the apportionment district, but within the state, into the apportionment district, unless the governing body of the sponsor finds, based on

p. 13 HB 1967

evidence provided to the apportionment district, that the firm being relocated would otherwise be likely to leave the state.

(iii) The public improvement ordinance must provide for one or more public hearings on the question of forming the apportionment district, which must be held before the legislative authority of the sponsor or a committee thereof. However, public hearings for formation of an apportionment district that is undertaken in combination or coordination by two or more sponsors may be held jointly. Public hearings held before the legislative authority or a committee of a majority thereof may be combined with public hearings held for other purposes;

(b) At least fifteen days in advance of the hearing:

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(i) Deliver notice of the hearing to: All taxing districts; the county treasurer; the county assessor; and the owners or reputed owners of all lots, tracts, and parcels of land within the proposed apportionment district, as shown on the rolls of the county assessor and directed to the address shown thereon. The notice must include: A map or drawing showing the approximate locations of the contemplated public improvements and the boundaries of the proposed apportionment district; a brief description of the proposed public improvements and the estimated cost thereof; the anticipated level of funding for community benefit activities under section 2 of this act; the maximum aggregate stated principal amount of tax allocation bonds expected to be issued, not including accreted value of capital appreciation bonds; the maximum period during which the special property tax is to be levied and collected; the anticipated increase in assessed values within the apportionment district; the location of the sponsor's principal business office, where it will maintain information concerning the public improvements for public inspection((-)); and the date and place of hearing; and

((\(\frac{(b)}{(b)}\)) (ii) Post notice in at least ((\(\frac{six}{(six)}\))) three public places located in the proposed apportionment district and publish notice in a legal newspaper of general circulation within the sponsor's jurisdiction briefly describing the public improvement, the proposed ((\(\frac{apportionment}{(apportionment)}\)) special property taxes, the boundaries of the proposed apportionment district, the location where additional information concerning the public improvement may be inspected, and the date and place of hearing;

 $((\frac{(3)}{)})$ (c) At the time and place fixed for the hearing under $(\frac{(\text{subsection }(1))}{(\text{subsection }(1))})$ (a) of this $(\frac{(\text{section})}{(\text{subsection}})$, and at such times to which the hearing may be adjourned, receive and consider all statements and materials as may be submitted, and objections and letters filed before or within ten days thereafter;

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(((4) Within)) (d) Not earlier than ten days and not more than one hundred twenty days after completion of the public ((hearings, pass an ordinance establishing the apportionment district and authorizing the proposed public improvement, including any modifications which in the sponsor's opinion the hearings indicated should be made, which includes the boundaries of the apportionment district, a description of the public improvement, the estimated cost thereof, the portion of the estimated cost thereof to be reimbursed from tax allocation revenues, the estimated time during which regular property taxes are to be apportioned, the date upon which apportionment of the regular property taxes will commence, and a finding that the public improvement meets the conditions of RCW 39.88.030)) hearing or hearings, pass the public improvement ordinance establishing the apportionment district and authorizing the proposed public improvements, including any modifications that the legislative authority of the sponsor deems appropriate, which includes: The boundaries of the apportionment district; a description of the public improvements and the estimated cost thereof; the maximum aggregate stated principal amount of tax allocation bonds expected to be issued, not including accreted value of capital appreciation bonds; the date upon which the levying and collection of the special property taxes will commence; the maximum period during which the special property tax is to be levied and collected; and a finding that the formation of the apportionment district meets the conditions of RCW 39.88.030 and section 2 of this act.

- (2) The authority of the sponsor to proceed with the levying and collection of special property taxes within an apportionment district is divested by a protest, filed with the legislative authority of the sponsor within thirty days after the date of passage of the public improvement ordinance, and signed by either:
- (a) The owners of the property within the apportionment district representing more than fifty percent of the value of taxable property

p. 15 HB 1967

within that apportionment district as reflected on rolls of the county assessor for the year in which the ordinance is passed; or

(b) The owners of sixty-five percent of the parcels comprising the apportionment district as reflected on rolls of the county assessor for the year in which the ordinance is passed.

- Sec. 5. RCW 39.88.070 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Upon the date established in the public improvement ordinance, but not ((sooner)) earlier than the first day of the calendar year following the passage of the ordinance((, the regular property taxes levied upon the assessed value of real property within the apportionment district shall be divided as follows:
 - (a) That portion of the regular property taxes produced by the rate of tax levied each year by or for each of the taxing districts upon the tax allocation base value of real property, or upon the assessed value of real property in each year, whichever is smaller, shall be allocated to and paid to the respective taxing districts; and
 - (b) That portion of the regular property taxes levied each year by or for each of the taxing districts upon the assessed value of real property within an apportionment district which is in excess of the tax allocation base value of real property shall be allocated and paid to the sponsor, or the sponsor's designated agent, until all public improvement costs to be paid from the tax allocation revenues have been paid, except that the sponsor may agree to receive less than the full amount of such portion as long as bond debt service, reserve, and other bond covenant requirements are satisfied, in which case the balance of the taxes shall be allocated to the respective taxing districts as the sponsor and the taxing districts may agree.
 - (2) The county assessor shall revalue the real property within the apportionment district)) and no earlier than would be permitted under RCW 84.09.030:
 - (a) Regular property taxes levied upon the property within the apportionment district by taxing districts must continue to be collected in accordance with applicable law, without regard to the existence of the apportionment district or the special property taxes levied or collected therein; and

нв 1967 р. 16

(b)(i) The sponsor may levy upon the value of taxable property within the apportionment district, and collect special property taxes in amounts not in excess of the amounts the legislative authority of the sponsor deems necessary to provide for the purposes set forth in RCW 39.88.080, but in annual amounts not in excess of one percent of the tax allocation increment value within the apportionment district.

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- (ii) Special property taxes collected within an apportionment district must be paid to the sponsor, or the sponsor's designated agent, until all public improvement costs and tax allocation bonds issued or incurred to be paid from the tax allocation revenues have been paid and the community benefit funding goals have been met, but in no event may special property taxes be collected longer than the maximum period set forth in the public improvement ordinance.
- (iii) Special property taxes are not regular property taxes and are not subject to the limitations imposed by Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution and are in excess of all statutory and charter limitations otherwise applicable to property taxes.
- (2) The county assessor must determine the value of the taxable property within the apportionment district according to the final assessment roll established for the calendar year in which the public improvement ordinance is enacted for the purpose of determining the tax allocation base value for the apportionment district and ((shall)) must certify to the sponsor the tax allocation base value as soon as practicable after the assessor receives notice of the improvement ordinance and ((shall)) must certify to the sponsor the total ((assessed)) value of ((real)) taxable property within thirty days after the property values for each succeeding year have been established, except that the assessed value of state-assessed real property within the apportionment district ((shall)) must be certified as soon as the values are provided to the assessor by the department of Nothing in this section authorizes revaluations of real property by the assessor for property taxation that are not made in accordance with the assessor's revaluation plan under chapter 84.41 RCW.
- (3) The date upon which the apportionment district was established ((shall be)) is considered the date upon which the public improvement ordinance was enacted by the sponsor.

p. 17 HB 1967

- 1 ((The apportionment of regular property taxes under this 2 section shall cease when tax allocation revenues are no longer necessary or obligated to pay public improvement costs or to pay 3 4 principal of and interest on bonds issued to finance public improvement costs and payable in whole or in part from tax allocation revenues. At 5 6 the time of termination of the apportionment, any excess money and any 7 earnings thereon held by the sponsor shall be returned to the county treasurer and distributed to the taxing districts which were subject to 8 9 the allocation in proportion to their regular property tax levies due 10 for the year in which the funds are returned)) The collection of 11 special property taxes within an apportionment district under this section must cease when tax allocation revenues are no longer necessary 12 13 or obligated to pay public improvement costs, to satisfy community benefit funding goals, or to pay tax allocation bonds, but in no event 14 may special property taxes be collected longer than the maximum period 15 set forth in the public improvement ordinance. At the time of 16 termination of the collection of those special property taxes, any 17 excess money and any earnings thereon held by the sponsor must be spent 18 on costs of public improvements or on funding for community benefit 19 20 activities.
- 21 (5) For purposes of Title 84 RCW, an apportionment district is 22 deemed a taxing district and any special property tax levy is deemed a 23 levy of the apportionment district, separate from any other tax levy of 24 the sponsor.
- 25 **Sec. 6.** RCW 39.88.080 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Tax allocation revenues may be applied ((as follows:
- 28 (1) To pay public improvement costs;

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- 29 (2) To pay principal of and interest on, and to fund any necessary 30 reserves for, tax allocation bonds;
 - (3) To pay into bond funds established to pay the principal of and interest on general obligation bonds issued pursuant to law to finance public facilities that are specified in the public improvement ordinance and constructed following the establishment of and within the apportionment district; or
- 36 (4) To pay any combination of the foregoing)) in no particular 37 order, as follows, to:

- 1 (a) Pay for public improvements including public improvement costs;
- (b) Provide for payments with respect to principal of and interest
 on, and to fund any necessary reserves for, tax allocation bonds;
 - (c) Fund community benefit activities in accordance with section 2 of this act; or
 - (d) Pay any combination of the foregoing.

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- 7 (2)(a) In the event that the legislative authority of a sponsor determines that public improvements specified in the public improvement 8 ordinance are impracticable to carry out, or if unspent tax allocation 9 bond proceeds or tax allocation revenues remain after the completion of 10 the public improvements specified in the public improvement ordinance, 11 12 the legislative authority may by ordinance authorize expenditure of the remaining bond proceeds and tax allocation revenues to retire or 13 defease those bonds or on other costs of public improvements, after 14 holding a hearing with public notice given substantially in accordance 15 with the procedure described in RCW 39.88.040(2). No such change of 16 use of tax allocation revenues or the proceeds of tax allocation bonds 17 may permit an increase in the maximum period of time during which the 18 special property tax is to be levied and collected, or permit an 19 increase in the total amount of the estimated cost to be paid from 20 21 special property taxes or from tax allocation bonds as set forth in the 22 public improvement ordinance.
 - (b) Upon the retirement or defeasance of all tax allocation bonds secured by special property taxes levied and collected within an apportionment district, any remaining tax allocation revenues must be spent to fund public improvement costs or community benefit activities specified in accordance with section 2 of this act.
- 28 **Sec. 7.** RCW 39.88.100 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 11 are each 29 amended to read as follows:
- 30 (1) A sponsor may issue such tax allocation bonds as it may deem 31 appropriate for the financing of public improvement costs and a 32 reasonable bond reserve and for the refunding of any outstanding tax 33 allocation bonds.
- 34 (2) The principal and interest of tax allocation bonds may be made 35 payable from:
 - (a) Tax allocation revenues;
 - (b) Project revenues ((which)) <u>that</u> may include:

p. 19 HB 1967

- (i) Nontax income, revenues, fees, and rents from the public improvement financed with the proceeds of the bonds, or portions thereof(()); and
 - (ii) Contributions, grants, and nontax money available to the sponsor for payment of costs of the public improvement or the debt service of the bonds issued therefor;
 - (c) <u>Proceeds of tax allocation bonds</u>, <u>if needed to capitalize interest for up to thirty-six months following completion of construction</u>, or as necessary to accomplish a refunding or refinancing of a prior issue of tax allocation bonds, consistent with applicable <u>federal tax regulations</u>;
 - (d) Annual ad valorem taxes to be levied within the constitutional and statutory tax limitations provided by law without a vote of the electors of the sponsor or other taxing district on all of the taxable property within the boundaries of that sponsor or other taxing district that are from the full faith and credit of the sponsor or of any other taxing district (the provision of which credit is declared to be a proper purpose for any such taxing district);
 - (e) Any combination of the foregoing.

- (3) Except and to the extent that a sponsor or other taxing district has expressly pledged its full faith and credit to the payment of tax allocation bonds, tax allocation bonds ((shall)) may not be the general obligation of or guaranteed by all or any part of the full faith and credit of the sponsor or any other state or local government, or any tax revenues other than tax allocation revenues, and ((shall)) are not ((be)) considered a debt of the sponsor or other state or local government for general indebtedness limitation purposes.
- (4) The terms and conditions of tax allocation bonds may include provisions for the following matters, among others:
- (a) The date of issuance, maturity date or dates, denominations, form, series, negotiability, registration, rank or priority, place of payment, interest rate or rates which may be fixed or may vary over the life of the tax allocation bonds, bond reserve, coverage, and such other terms related to repayment of the tax allocation bonds;
- (b) The application of tax allocation bond proceeds; the use, sale, or disposition of property acquired; consideration or rents and fees to be charged in the sale or lease of property acquired; consideration or rents and fees to be charged in the sale or lease of property within a

- public improvement; the application of rents, fees, and revenues within a public improvement; the maintenance, insurance, and replacement of property within a public improvement; other encumbrances, if any, upon all or part of property within a public improvement, then existing or thereafter acquired; and the type of debts that may be incurred;
- (c) The creation of special funds; the money to be so applied; and the use and disposition of the money;
 - (d) The securing of the tax allocation bonds by a pledge of property and property rights, by assignment of income generated by the public improvement, or by pledging such additional specifically described resources other than tax revenues as are available to the sponsor;
 - (e) The terms and conditions for redemption;

- (f) The replacement of lost and destroyed bond instruments;
- 15 (g) Procedures for amendment of the terms and conditions of the tax 16 allocation bonds;
 - (h) The powers of a trustee to enforce covenants and take other actions in event of default; the rights, liabilities, powers, and duties arising upon the breach of any covenant, condition, or obligation; and
 - (i) When consistent with the terms of this chapter, such other terms, conditions, and provisions which may make the tax allocation bonds more marketable and further the purposes of this chapter.
 - (5) Tax allocation bonds may be issued and sold in such manner as the legislative authority of the sponsor ((shall)) determines. Notwithstanding subsection (4) of this section, tax allocation bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.
 - (6) The sponsor may also issue or incur obligations in anticipation of the receipt of tax allocation bond proceeds or other money available to pay public improvement costs.
- 31 (7) Nothing in this section grants a sponsor authority to issue tax 32 allocation bonds payable solely from revenues of a project constituting 33 a community benefit activity involving the provision of housing or 34 nonprofit facilities in duplication of the authority of the Washington 35 state housing finance commission under chapter 43.180 RCW.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 84.52.043 and 2011 c 275 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

p. 21 HB 1967

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

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- (1) Levies of the senior taxing districts are as follows: (a) The levy by the state may not exceed three dollars and sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value adjusted to the state equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of the common schools; (b) the levy by any county may not exceed one dollar and eighty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; (c) the levy by any road district may not exceed two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; and (d) the levy by any city or town may not exceed three dollars and thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. However any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from one dollar and eighty cents to a rate not to exceed two dollars and forty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and any road district within the county do not exceed four dollars and five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and no other taxing district has its levy reduced as a result of the increased county levy.
- (2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior taxing districts, other than the state, may not exceed five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. "junior taxing districts" includes all taxing districts other than the state, counties, road districts, cities, towns, apportionment districts established under chapter 39.88 RCW, port districts, and public utility The limitations provided in this subsection do not apply (a) Levies at the rates provided by existing law by or for any port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax levies authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution; (c) levies for acquiring conservation futures as authorized under RCW 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies to finance affordable housing for very low-income housing imposed under RCW 84.52.105; (f) the portions of levies by metropolitan park districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130; (h) levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW

нв 1967 р. 22

84.52.135; (i) the portions of levies by fire protection districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.125; (j) levies by counties for transit-related purposes under RCW 84.52.140; ((and)) (k) the protected portion of the levies imposed under RCW 86.15.160 by flood control zone districts in a county with a population of seven hundred seventy-five thousand or more that are coextensive with a county; and (l) levies by or for apportionment districts established under chapter 39.88 RCW.

Sec. 9. RCW 84.52.043 and 2009 c 551 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

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Within and subject to the limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 as amended, the regular ad valorem tax levies upon real and personal property by the taxing districts hereafter named ($(shall\ be)$) are as follows:

- (1) Levies of the senior taxing districts ((shall be)) are as follows: (a) The levy by the state ((shall)) may not exceed three dollars and sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value adjusted to the state equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of the common schools; (b) the levy by any county ((shall)) may not exceed one dollar and eighty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; (c) the levy by any road district ((shall)) may not exceed two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; and (d) the levy by any city or town ((shall)) may not exceed three dollars and thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. However any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from one dollar and eighty cents to a rate not to exceed two dollars and forty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and any road district within the county do not exceed four dollars and five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and no other taxing district has its levy reduced as a result of the increased county levy.
- (2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior taxing districts, other than the state, ((shall)) may not exceed five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The term "junior taxing districts" includes all taxing districts other than the state, counties, road districts, cities, towns, apportionment

p. 23 HB 1967

districts established under chapter 39.88 RCW, port districts, and 1 2 public utility districts. The limitations provided in this subsection ((shall)) do not apply to: (a) Levies at the rates provided by 3 4 existing law by or for any port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax levies authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state 5 6 Constitution; (C) levies for acquiring conservation futures authorized under RCW 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care 7 8 or emergency medical services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies 9 to finance affordable housing for very low-income housing imposed under 84.52.105; (f) the portions of levies by metropolitan park 10 11 districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by 12 ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130; (h) levies for criminal justice 13 purposes under RCW 84.52.135; (i) the portions of levies by fire protection districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.125; ((and)) 14 15 levies by counties for transit-related purposes under RCW 16 84.52.140; and (k) levies by or for apportionment districts established under chapter 39.88 RCW. 17

Sec. 10. RCW 84.52.050 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 194 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Except as ((hereinafter)) provided otherwise in this section, the aggregate of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the state and all taxing districts, now existing or hereafter created, ((shall)) may not in any year exceed one percentum of the true and fair value of such property in money((: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing herein shall prevent)). Nothing in this section prevents levies at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or public utility district or any apportionment district established under chapter 39.88 RCW. term "taxing district" for the purposes of this section ((shall)) means any political subdivision, municipal corporation, district, or other governmental agency authorized by law to levy, or have levied for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other than a port or public utility district or any apportionment district established under chapter 39.88 Such aggregate limitation or any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity therewith may be exceeded only as authorized by law and in conformity with the provisions of Article VII, section 2(a), (b), or (c) of the state Constitution ((of the state of Washington.

HB 1967 p. 24

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- Nothing herein contained shall prohibit)), or in conformity with any other provision of Article VII of the state Constitution.
- 3 (2) Nothing in this section prohibits the legislature from 4 allocating or reallocating the authority to levy taxes between the 5 taxing districts of the state and its political subdivisions in a 6 manner which complies with the aggregate tax limitation set forth in 7 this section.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 11.** The following acts or parts of acts are 9 each repealed:
- 10 (1) RCW 39.88.060 (Disagreements between taxing districts) and 1989 11 c 378 s 1 & 1982 1st ex.s. c 42 s 7; and
- 12 (2) RCW 39.88.090 (General obligation bonds) and 1982 1st ex.s. c 13 42×10 .
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. Section 8 of this act expires January 1, 2018.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. Section 9 of this act takes effect January 1, 2018.

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p. 25 HB 1967