

ESSB 5955 - H AMD TO TR COMM AMD (H-5153.1/18) **1381**
By Representative Irwin

1 On page 3, after line 27 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 81.112
3 RCW to read as follows:

4 (1) Any property taxes approved by regional transit authority
5 voters under RCW 81.104.175 may be nullified within the complete
6 boundaries of a city or county within a regional transit authority if
7 a proposition to nullify the property taxes is approved by voters
8 under subsection (2) of this section.

9 (2) If a petition to nullify regional transit authority property
10 taxes within a city or county is filed with the county auditor
11 containing the signatures of eight percent of the number of voters
12 registered and voting in the city or county for the office of the
13 governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election, the county
14 auditor must canvass the signatures in the same manner as prescribed
15 in RCW 29A.72.230 and certify their sufficiency to the governing body
16 within two weeks. The proposition to nullify the property taxes must
17 then be submitted to the voters of the city or county at a special
18 election, called for this purpose, no later than the date on which a
19 primary election would be held under RCW 29A.04.311. The property
20 taxes may then be nullified only if approved by a majority of the
21 voters of the city or county voting on the proposition.

22 (3) Any regional transit authority property taxes nullified under
23 this section may not be imposed within the boundaries of the affected
24 city or county.

25 **Sec. 6.** RCW 81.104.175 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 s 321 are each
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (1) A regional transit authority that includes a county with a
28 population of more than one million five hundred thousand may impose
29 a regular property tax levy in an amount not to exceed twenty-five
30 cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of property in the

1 regional transit authority district in accordance with the terms of
2 this section.

3 (2) Any tax imposed under this section must be used for the
4 purpose of providing high capacity transportation service, as set
5 forth in a proposition that is approved by a majority of the
6 registered voters that vote on the proposition.

7 (3) Property taxes imposed under this section may be imposed for
8 the period of time required to pay the cost to plan, design,
9 construct, operate, and maintain the transit facilities set forth in
10 the approved proposition. Property taxes pledged to repay bonds may
11 be imposed at the pledged amount until the bonds are retired. After
12 the bonds are retired, property taxes authorized under this section
13 must be:

14 (a) Reduced to the level required to operate and maintain the
15 regional transit authority's transit facilities; or

16 (b) Terminated, unless the taxes have been extended by public
17 vote.

18 (4) The limitations in RCW 84.52.043 do not apply to the tax
19 authorized in this section.

20 (5) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 does not apply to the first
21 levy imposed under this section.

22 (6) If a regional transit authority imposes the tax authorized
23 under subsection (1) of this section, the authority may not receive
24 any state grant funds provided in an omnibus transportation
25 appropriations act except transit coordination grants created in
26 chapter 11, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess.

27 (7) The authority to impose a tax under this section is subject
28 to section 5 of this act."

29 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct the
30 title.

EFFECT: Nullifies the authority for an RTA to impose property
taxes within a city or a county, if the city or county voters approve
a proposition to nullify such taxes at a special election.

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