
HOUSE BILL 1662

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Dent, Springer, Kretz, Blake, Dye, Tharinger, Chandler, Fitzgibbon, Peterson, Fey, Corry, Dufault, and Young

Read first time 01/28/19. Referred to Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to payments in lieu of real property taxes;
2 amending RCW 77.12.201 and 77.12.203; providing an effective date;
3 and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.12.201 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 1 s 983 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The legislative authority of a county may elect, by giving
8 written notice to the director and the treasurer prior to January 1st
9 of any year, to obtain for the following year an amount in lieu of
10 real property taxes on game lands as provided in RCW 77.12.203. Upon
11 the election, the county shall keep a record of all fines,
12 forfeitures, reimbursements, and costs assessed and collected, in
13 whole or in part, under this title for violations of law or rules
14 adopted pursuant to this title(~~(, with the exception of the 2015-2017~~
15 ~~and 2017-2019 fiscal biennia, and shall monthly remit an amount equal~~
16 ~~to the amount collected to the state treasurer for deposit in the~~
17 ~~state general fund)). The election shall continue until the~~
18 department is notified differently prior to January 1st of any year.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.12.203 and 2018 c 299 s 913 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

1 (1) (~~Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section and~~
2 ~~notwithstanding RCW 84.36.010 or other statutes to the contrary, the~~
3 ~~director must pay by April 30th of each year on game lands,~~
4 ~~regardless of acreage, in each county, if requested by an election~~
5 ~~under RCW 77.12.201, an amount in lieu of real property taxes equal~~
6 ~~to that amount paid on similar parcels of open space land taxable~~
7 ~~under chapter 84.34 RCW or the greater of seventy cents per acre per~~
8 ~~year or the amount paid in 1984 plus)) The state treasurer, on behalf
9 of the department, must distribute to counties for eligible game
10 lands, if requested by an election under RCW 77.12.201, an amount in
11 lieu of real property taxes equal to fifty percent of the assessed
12 value divided by one thousand multiplied by the local levy rate less
13 the state levy portion. The county must provide a list to the
14 department of eligible parcels, assessed value, and local levy rate
15 by parcel by December 31st for payment the following year. This
16 amount may not be assessed or paid on department buildings,
17 structures, facilities, game farms, fish hatcheries, water access
18 sites, tidelands, or public fishing areas. The director must pay an
19 additional amount for control of noxious weeds equal to that which
20 would be paid if such lands were privately owned. ((This amount may
21 not be assessed or paid on department buildings, structures,
22 facilities, game farms, fish hatcheries, water access sites,
23 tidelands, or public fishing areas.))~~

24 (2) "Game lands," as used in this section and RCW 77.12.201,
25 means those tracts, regardless of acreage, owned in fee by the
26 department and used for wildlife habitat and public recreational
27 purposes. All lands purchased for wildlife habitat, public access, or
28 recreation purposes with federal funds in the Snake River drainage
29 basin are considered game lands regardless of acreage.

30 (3) This section does not apply to lands transferred after April
31 23, 1990, to the department from other state agencies.

32 (4) The county must distribute the amount received under this
33 section in lieu of real property taxes to all property taxing
34 districts except the state in appropriate tax code areas the same way
35 it would distribute local property taxes from private property. The
36 county must distribute the amount received under this section for
37 weed control to the appropriate weed district.

38 (~~(5) For the 2013-2015 and 2015-2017 fiscal biennia, the~~
39 ~~director must pay by April 30th of each year on game lands in each~~

1 ~~county, if requested by an election under RCW 77.12.201, an amount in~~
2 ~~lieu of real property taxes and must be distributed as follows:~~

3 **County**

4	Adams.....	1,909
5	Asotin.....	36,123
6	Chelan.....	24,757
7	Columbia.....	7,795
8	Ferry.....	6,781
9	Garfield.....	4,840
10	Grant.....	37,443
11	Kittitas.....	143,974
12	Klickitat.....	21,906
13	Lincoln.....	13,535
14	Okanogan.....	151,402
15	Pend Oreille.....	3,309
16	Yakima.....	126,225

17 ~~These amounts may not be assessed or paid on department buildings,~~
18 ~~structures, facilities, game farms, fish hatcheries, water access~~
19 ~~sites, tidelands, or public fishing areas.~~

20 ~~(6) For the 2017-2019 fiscal biennium, the director must pay by~~
21 ~~April 30th of each year on game lands in each county, if requested by~~
22 ~~an election under RCW 77.12.201, an amount in lieu of real property~~
23 ~~taxes and must be distributed as follows:~~

24 **County**

25	Adams.....	1,909
26	Asotin.....	36,123
27	Chelan.....	39,858
28	Columbia.....	20,713
29	Ferry.....	22,798
30	Garfield.....	12,744
31	Grant.....	71,930
32	Kittitas.....	382,638
33	Klickitat.....	51,019

1	Lincoln.....	13,535
2	Okanogan.....	264,036
3	Pend Oreille.....	5,546
4	Yakima.....	186,056

5 ~~These amounts may not be assessed or paid on department buildings,~~
6 ~~structures, facilities, game farms, fish hatcheries, water access~~
7 ~~sites, tidelands, or public fishing areas.)~~)

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
10 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
11 effect July 1, 2019.

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