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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2815**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representative Ortiz-Self)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to library districts; and amending RCW 27.12.222  
2 and 27.15.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 27.12.222 and 1984 c 186 s 8 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 A rural county library district, intercounty rural library  
7 district, or island library district may contract indebtedness and  
8 issue general obligation bonds not to exceed an amount, together with  
9 any outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness,  
10 equal to one-tenth of one percent of the value of the taxable  
11 property within the district, as the term "value of the taxable  
12 property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. The maximum term of nonvoter  
13 approved general obligation bonds shall not exceed (~~six~~) twenty  
14 years. A rural county library district, island library district, or  
15 intercounty rural library district may additionally contract  
16 indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes  
17 only, together with any outstanding general indebtedness, not to  
18 exceed an amount equal to one-half of one percent of the value of the  
19 taxable property within the district, as the term "value of the  
20 taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015 whenever a proposition  
21 authorizing the issuance of such bonds has been approved by the

1 voters of the district pursuant to RCW 39.36.050, by three-fifths of  
2 the persons voting on the proposition at which election the number of  
3 persons voting on the proposition shall constitute not less than  
4 forty percent of the total number of votes cast in such taxing  
5 district at the last preceding general election. If the voters shall  
6 so authorize at an election held pursuant to RCW 39.36.050, the  
7 district may levy annual taxes in excess of normal legal limitations  
8 to pay the principal and interest upon such bonds as they shall  
9 become due. The excess levies mentioned in this section or in RCW  
10 84.52.052 or 84.52.056 may be made notwithstanding anything contained  
11 in RCW 27.12.050 or 27.12.150 or any other statute pertaining to such  
12 library districts.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 27.15.020 and 2015 c 53 s 4 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (1) Upon receipt of a completed written request to both establish  
16 a library capital facility area and submit a ballot proposition under  
17 RCW 27.15.050 to finance library capital facilities, that is signed  
18 by a majority of the members of the board of trustees of a library  
19 district or board of trustees of a city or town library, the county  
20 legislative authority or county legislative authorities for the  
21 county or counties in which a proposed library capital facility area  
22 is to be established (~~shall~~) must submit (~~separate~~) a ballot  
23 proposition(~~s~~) to voters to (~~authorize establishing~~) establish  
24 the proposed library capital facility area and (~~authorizing~~)  
25 authorize the library capital facility area(~~, if established,~~) to  
26 finance library capital facilities by issuing general indebtedness  
27 and imposing excess levies to retire the indebtedness. The ballot  
28 proposition(~~s shall~~) must be submitted to voters at a general or  
29 special election. If the proposed election date is not a general  
30 election, the county legislative authority is encouraged to request  
31 an election when another unit of local government with territory  
32 located in the proposed library capital facility area is already  
33 holding a special election under RCW 29A.04.330. (~~Approval of the~~  
34 ~~ballot proposition to create a library capital facility area shall~~  
35 ~~be~~) The ballot proposition must be approved by a (~~simple majority~~)  
36 supermajority vote.

37 (2) A completed request submitted under this section (~~shall~~)  
38 must include: (~~1~~) (a) A description of the boundaries of the  
39 library capital facility area; and (~~2~~) (b) a copy of the

1 resolution of the legislative authority of each city or town, and  
2 board of trustees of each library district, with territory included  
3 within the proposed library capital facility area indicating both:  
4 ~~((a))~~ (i) Its approval of the creation of the proposed library  
5 capital facility area; and ~~((b))~~ (ii) agreement on how election  
6 costs will be paid for submitting the ballot proposition~~((s))~~ to  
7 voters ~~((that authorize the library capital facility area to incur  
8 general indebtedness and impose excess levies to retire the general  
9 indebtedness))~~.

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