S-1215.1

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5370

State of Washington   **69th Legislature**   **2025 Regular Session**

By Senate Local Government (originally sponsored by Senators Harris, Chapman, Krishnadasan, Lovelett, and Nobles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/10/25.

1   AN ACT Relating to lengthening port commissioner terms; and
2   adding a new section to chapter 53.12 RCW.

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

4   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 53.12
5   RCW to read as follows:
6   (1) A ballot proposition to lengthen the terms of office of port
7   commissioners from four years to six years must be submitted to the
8   voters of any port district upon either resolution of the port
9   commissioners or petition of voters of the port district proposing
10   the increase in terms of office, which petition has been signed by
11   voters of the port district equal in number to at least 10 percent of
12   the number of voters in the port district voting at the last general
13   election.
14   (2) The petition must be submitted to the county auditor. If the
15   petition was signed by sufficient valid signatures, the ballot
16   proposition must be submitted at the next general election that
17   occurs 60 or more days after the adoption of the resolution or
18   submission of the petition.
19   (3) If the ballot proposition lengthening the terms of office of
20   port commissioners is approved by a simple majority vote of the
21   voters voting on the proposition, the commissioner elected at that

1 election is elected to a six-year term of office. The terms of office
2 of the other commissioners are not lengthened.
3   (4) If two commissioners are elected in that election or the next
4 subsequent general election, the commissioner thus elected receiving
5 the highest number of votes is elected to a six-year term of office
6 and the other commissioner is elected to a four-year term of office.
7 Each successor commissioner is elected to six-year terms.
8   (5) This section does not apply to a port district that is
9 required to maintain four-year terms under RCW 53.12.172.

--- END ---