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**SENATE BILL 5370**

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

**By** Senators Harris, Chapman, Krishnadasan, Lovelett, and Nobles

Read first time 01/20/25. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

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 or commissioners

1 who are elected at that election are elected to six-year terms of  
2 office. The terms of office of the other commissioners are not  
3 lengthened, but each successor is elected to a six-year term of  
4 office.

5 (4) This section does not apply to a port district that is  
6 required to maintain four-year terms under RCW 53.12.172.

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