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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5751**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen and Spanel)

Read first time 02/26/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to rural partial-county library districts; amending  
2 RCW 27.12.010 and 84.52.052; and adding a new section to chapter 27.12  
3 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 27.12 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 A rural partial-county library district may be created in a portion  
8 of the unincorporated area of a county as provided in this section if  
9 a rural library district or island library district has not been  
10 created in the county and the area proposed to be included in a rural  
11 partial-county library district has an assessed valuation of at least  
12 fifty million dollars.

13 The procedure to create a rural partial-county library district is  
14 initiated by the filing of petitions with the county auditor proposing  
15 the creation of the district that have been signed by at least ten  
16 percent of the registered voters residing in the area proposed to be  
17 included in the rural partial-county library district. The county  
18 auditor shall review the petitions and certify the sufficiency or  
19 insufficiency of the signatures to the county legislative authority.

1 If the petitions are certified as having sufficient valid  
2 signatures, the county legislative authority shall hold a public  
3 hearing on the proposed rural partial-county library district, may  
4 adjust the boundaries of the proposed district, and may cause a ballot  
5 proposition to be submitted to the voters of the proposed rural  
6 partial-county library district authorizing its creation if the county  
7 legislative authority finds that the creation of the rural partial-  
8 county library district is in the public interest. A subsequent public  
9 hearing shall be held if additional territory is added to the proposed  
10 rural partial-county library district by action of the county  
11 legislative authority.

12 The rural partial-county library district shall be created if the  
13 ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the district is approved  
14 by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition.  
15 Immediately after creation of the rural partial-county library district  
16 the county legislative authority shall appoint a board of library  
17 trustees for the district as provided under RCW 27.12.190.

18 Except as provided in this section, a rural partial-county library  
19 district is subject to all the provisions of law applicable to a rural  
20 county library district and shall have all the powers, duties, and  
21 authorities of a rural county library district, including, but not  
22 limited to, the authority to impose property taxes, incur debt, and  
23 annex a city or town with a population of less than one hundred  
24 thousand at the time of the annexation that is located in the same  
25 county as the rural partial-county library district.

26 Adjacent unincorporated territory in the county may be annexed to  
27 a rural partial-county library district in the same manner as territory  
28 is annexed to a sewer district, except that an annexation is not  
29 subject to potential review by a boundary review board.

30 If a ballot proposition is approved creating a rural county library  
31 district in the county, every rural partial-county library district in  
32 that county shall be dissolved and its assets and liabilities  
33 transferred to the rural county library district. Where a rural  
34 partial-county library district has annexed a city or town, the voters  
35 of the city or town shall be allowed to vote on the proposed creation  
36 of a rural county library district and, if created, the rural county  
37 library district shall include each city and town that was annexed to  
38 the rural partial-county library district.

1        Nothing in this section: (1) Authorizes a rural partial-county  
2 library to be created or to annex territory if the creation or  
3 annexation will require the deannexation of part of the territory of an  
4 existing rural county library district; island library district; city,  
5 county, or regional library; intercounty library district; or other  
6 rural partial-county library district; or (2) authorizes the  
7 consolidation of a rural partial-county library with any rural county  
8 library district; island library district; city, county, or regional  
9 library; intercounty library district; or other rural partial-county  
10 library district, unless, in addition to any other requirements imposed  
11 by statute, the boards of all library districts involved approve the  
12 consolidation.

13        **Sec. 2.** RCW 27.12.010 and 1982 c 123 s 1 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15        As used in this chapter (~~and chapter 27.08 RCW~~), unless the  
16 context requires a different meaning:

17        (1) "Governmental unit" means any county, city, town, rural county  
18 library district, intercounty rural library district, or island library  
19 district;

20        (2) "Legislative body" means the body authorized to determine the  
21 amount of taxes to be levied in a governmental unit; in rural county  
22 library districts, in intercounty rural library districts, and in  
23 island library districts, the legislative body shall be the board of  
24 library trustees of the district;

25        (3) "Library" means a free public library supported in whole or in  
26 part with money derived from taxation; (~~and~~)

27        (4) "Regional library" means a free public library maintained by  
28 two or more counties or other governmental units as provided in RCW  
29 27.12.080; (~~and~~)

30        (5) "Rural county library district" means a library serving all the  
31 area of a county not included within the area of incorporated cities  
32 and towns: PROVIDED, That any city or town with a population of one  
33 hundred thousand or less at the time of annexation may be included  
34 therein as provided in RCW 27.12.360 through 27.12.390; (~~and~~)

35        (6) "Intercounty rural library district" means a municipal  
36 corporation organized to provide library service for all areas outside  
37 of incorporated cities and towns within two or more counties:  
38 PROVIDED, That any city or town with a population of one hundred

1 thousand or less at the time of annexation may be included therein as  
2 provided in RCW 27.12.360 through 27.12.390; (~~and~~)

3 (7) "Island library district" means a municipal corporation  
4 organized to provide library service for all areas outside of  
5 incorporated cities and towns on a single island only, and not all of  
6 the area of the county, in counties composed entirely of islands and  
7 having a population of less than twenty-five thousand at the time the  
8 island library district was created: PROVIDED, That any city or town  
9 with a population of one hundred thousand or less at the time of  
10 annexation may be included therein as provided in RCW 27.12.360 through  
11 27.12.390; and

12 (8) "Rural partial-county library district" means a municipal  
13 corporation organized to provide library service for a portion of the  
14 unincorporated area of a county that has an assessed valuation of at  
15 least fifty million dollars. Any city or town located in the same  
16 county as a rural partial-county library district may annex to the  
17 district if the city or town has a population of one hundred thousand  
18 or less at the time of annexation.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 84.52.052 and 1991 c 138 s 1 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 The limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056, and RCW  
22 84.52.043 shall not prevent the levy of additional taxes by any taxing  
23 district except school districts in which a larger levy is necessary in  
24 order to prevent the impairment of the obligation of contracts. As  
25 used in this section, the term "taxing district" means any county,  
26 metropolitan park district, park and recreation service area, park and  
27 recreation district, sewer district, water district, solid waste  
28 disposal district, public facilities district, flood control zone  
29 district, county rail district, service district, public hospital  
30 district, road district, rural county library district, island library  
31 district, rural partial-county library district, intercounty rural  
32 library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city,  
33 town, transportation benefit district, emergency medical service  
34 district with a population density of less than one thousand per square  
35 mile, or cultural arts, stadium, and convention district.

36 Any such taxing district may levy taxes at a rate in excess of the  
37 rate specified in RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056 and 84.52.043, or RCW  
38 84.55.010 through 84.55.050, when authorized so to do by the voters of

1 such taxing district in the manner set forth in Article VII, section  
2 2(a) of the Constitution of this state, as amended by Amendment 64 and  
3 as thereafter amended, at a special or general election to be held in  
4 the year in which the levy is made.

5 A special election may be called and the time therefor fixed by the  
6 county legislative authority, or council, board of commissioners, or  
7 other governing body of any such taxing district, by giving notice  
8 thereof by publication in the manner provided by law for giving notices  
9 of general elections, at which special election the proposition  
10 authorizing such excess levy shall be submitted in such form as to  
11 enable the voters favoring the proposition to vote "yes" and those  
12 opposed thereto to vote "no."

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