

CHAPTER 77.

[Engrossed House Bill No. 539.]

PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to public hospital districts; providing for increase in the size of public hospital district boards of commissioners; and adding new sections to chapter 264, Laws of 1945 and to chapter 70.44 RCW.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

Public hospital districts—Boards of commissioners—Increase in membership.

Section 1. In addition to the procedures enumerated in RCW 70.44.020, 70.44.030 and 70.44.035, the board of public hospital district commissioners in an existing intracounty or intercounty district may be increased to five or to seven members; and any district created after the effective date of this 1967 amendatory act may have three, five or seven commissioners.

Election.

Sec. 2. At any general or special election which may be called for that purpose the board of public hospital district commissioners may, or on petition of ten percent of the electors based on the total vote cast in the last general election in the district shall, by resolution, submit to the voters of the district the proposition increasing the number of commissioners to any number authorized in section 1 of this 1967 amendatory act.

New commissioners—Apportionment.

Sec. 3. (1) (a) In intracounty districts having five commissioners, one shall be elected from each commissioner district as provided in RCW 70.44.040, and two shall be elected at large from the hospital district by positions No. 4 and No. 5.

(b) In intercounty districts having five commissioners, two shall be elected from each commissioner district by positions No. 1 and No. 2, and one shall be elected at large from the hospital district.

(2) (a) In intracounty districts having seven commissioners, two shall be elected from each com-

missioner district by positions No. 1 and No. 2, and one shall be elected at large from the entire hospital district.

(b) In intercounty districts having seven commissioners, three shall be elected from each commissioner district by positions No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3, and one shall be elected at large from the entire hospital district.

Sec. 4. (1) In all existing public hospital districts in which an increase in membership of the board of hospital district commissioners is proposed, the district commissioners shall, by resolution adopted in advance of any elections therefor, provide for the staggering of terms of the additional commissioner positions so that, as nearly as is mathematically possible, one-third of the expanded board shall be elected every two years.

New commis-  
sioners—Stag-  
gering of  
terms.

(2) When a new district is proposed with more than three commissioners, the county commissioners of the counties affected shall adopt the resolution prescribed in subsection (1) of this section.

Sec. 5. Sections 1 through 4 of this 1967 amendatory act are each added to chapter 264, Laws of 1945 and to chapter 70.44 RCW.

Sections added.

Passed the House March 1, 1967.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1967.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1967.