

may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the ferry system to supplement tolls: PROVIDED, That if SSB 2159 is not enacted into law during the 1975 1st extraordinary session and signed by the governor the appropriation from the Puget Sound ferry operations account shall be \$3,352,829, or so much thereof as may be necessary for operation and maintenance of the ferry system to supplement tolls, and from the motor vehicle fund \$7,803,160 or so much thereof as may be necessary to supplement the appropriation from the Puget Sound ferry operations account contained in this section: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if chapter ...(SSB 2159), Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. is enacted into law during the 1975 1st extraordinary session and signed by the governor no funds appropriated in this section from the motor vehicle fund to supplement the appropriation from the Puget Sound ferry operations account shall be available for expenditure.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This 1977 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate February 7, 1977.

Passed the House February 4, 1977.

Approved by the Governor February 10, 1977.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 10, 1977.

CHAPTER 3

[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2561]

CLOUD SEEDING—EMERGENCY PROGRAM

AN ACT Relating to weather modification and control; creating new sections and providing for the expiration thereof; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. The legislature hereby finds and declares that the lack of precipitation in the state is causing severe hardships affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state. An increase in precipitation is urgently needed to alleviate hardships created by the shortage of water for agricultural irrigation, the threat of forest fires, the shortage of water for generation of hydroelectric power, and for domestic consumption.

The department of natural resources shall immediately commence a program of emergency cloud seeding in cooperation with the University of Washington for the purposes specified in this section. The department is empowered to enter into appropriate contracts to accomplish the purposes of this act. The department may cooperate with any other state or federal agencies to accomplish these purposes.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, this act shall supersede all existing statutes inconsistent herewith including, but not limited to, chapter 43.21C RCW. In addition, chapter 43.21C RCW shall not apply to weather modification activities undertaken by private persons under authority of a permit issued pursuant to chapter 43.37 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, neither the state nor its agents will be liable for any injury or damages

caused by any person as a result of the emergency cloud seeding program required by this act and this act shall supersede all existing statutes inconsistent herewith including, but not limited to RCW 4.92.090.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. There is hereby appropriated to the department of natural resources from the general fund the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. The provisions of this act shall expire on June 30, 1977, and thereafter be null and void and of no further force and effect whatsoever.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate February 18, 1977.

Passed the House February 18, 1977.

Approved by the Governor February 21, 1977.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 21, 1977.

CHAPTER 4

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 2056] EXCESS SCHOOL LEVIES—ELECTIONS

AN ACT Relating to revenue and taxation for the common schools; amending section 84.52.052, chapter 15, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 102, chapter 195, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 84.52.052; amending section 84.52.054, chapter 15, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 103, chapter 195, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 84.52.054; amending section 29.27.060, chapter 9, Laws of 1965 as amended by section 1, chapter 118, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.27.060; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 84.52.052, chapter 15, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 102, chapter 195, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 84.52.052 are each amended to read as follows:

The limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056, and RCW 84.52.043 shall not prevent the levy of additional taxes by any taxing district in which a larger levy is necessary in order to prevent the impairment of the obligation of contracts. Any county, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district in class AA counties and counties of the second, eighth and ninth class, sewer district, water district, public hospital district, rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city or town may levy taxes at a rate in excess of the rate specified in RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056 and RCW 84.52.043, or RCW 84.55.010 through 84.55.050, when authorized so to do by the electors of such county, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district in class AA counties and counties of the second, eighth and ninth class, sewer district, water district, public hospital district, rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city or town in the manner set forth in Article VII, section 2(a) of the Constitution of this state, as amended by Amendment 59 and as thereafter amended, at a special or general election to be held in the year in which