CHAPTER 128:

[H. B. 77.]

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS.

An Act relating to local improvements, and amending section $1000\ \text{Pierce's}$ Code.

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

Section 1. That Section 1000 Pierce's Code be amended to read as follows:

Limit of assessment.

Section 1000. The council or other legislative body shall have jurisdiction to proceed with any such improvement initiated by petition or resolution: Provided, That in any city of the first class it appears from the certificate of the board, officer, or authority designated by charter or ordinance to determine the same that the proportion of the estimated cost and expense thereof to be assessed against the property in the proposed improvement district does not exceed fifty per cent (50%) of the valuation of the real estate, exclusive of improvements thereon, within such district, according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation: Provided, That this limit may be exceeded when any such improvement shall be petitioned for in the manner provided in Section 997, and such petition shall be signed by the owners of sixty (60%) per cent of the lineal frontage upon the improvement to be made and three-fourths of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district, and shall specify a certain higher percentage up to which the property within such proposed improvement district may be assessed: Provided, further, That the jurisdiction of the council or other legislative authority to proceed with any such improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by a protest filed

with the council prior to the awarding of the contract for such improvement signed by the owners of three-fourths of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district: Provided, further, That the jurisdiction of the city commission in cities organized under the commission form of government pursuant to Chapter 116 of the Session Laws of 1911 to proceed with any such improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by a protest filed with the commission prior to the awarding of the contract for such improvement signed by the owners of one-half of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district. In the absence of fraud or gross mistake, such certificate of such board, officer or other authority shall be final and conclusive.

In computing the valuation of such property any non-assessable property owned by the United States, state, county, city, town, school district or other public corporation, shall be valued at the same rate as assessed property similarly situated.

Passed the House February 2, 1921.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1921.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1921.