

CHAPTER 145

[Substitute House Bill No. 4]

COUNTY SEATS—REMOVAL REQUIREMENTS

AN ACT Relating to the removal of county seats; and amending RCW 36.12.010, 36.12.080, and 36.12.090.

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

Sec. 1. Section 36.12.010, chapter 4, Laws of 1963 and RCW 36.12.010 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever the inhabitants of any county desire to remove the county seat of the county from the place where it is fixed by law or otherwise, they shall present a petition to the board of county commissioners of their county praying such removal, and that an election be held to determine to what place such removal must be made. The petition shall set forth the names of the towns or cities to which the county seat is proposed to be removed and shall be filed at least six months before the election. The county shall issue a statement analyzing the financial impact of the proposed removal at least sixty days before the election. The financial impact statement shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the: (1) Probable costs to the county government involved in relocating the county seat; (2) probable costs to county employees as a result of relocating the county seat; and (3) probable impact on the city or town from which the county seat is proposed to be removed, and on the city or town where the county seat is proposed to be relocated.

Sec. 2. Section 36.12.080, chapter 4, Laws of 1963 and RCW 36.12.080 are each amended to read as follows:

When an election has been held and no one place receives three-fifths of all the votes cast, the former county seat shall remain the county seat, and no second election may be held within ~~((four))~~ eight years thereafter.

Sec. 3. Section 36.12.090, chapter 4, Laws of 1963 and RCW 36.12.090 are each amended to read as follows:

When the county seat of a county has been removed by a popular vote of the people of the county, it may be again removed, from time to time, in the manner provided by this chapter, but no two elections to effect such removal may be held within ~~((four))~~ eight years.

Passed the House February 8, 1985.

Passed the Senate April 11, 1985.

Approved by the Governor April 25, 1985.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 25, 1985.