

one counsel, address the court and jury upon the law and facts of the case, after which the adverse party may address the court and jury in like manner by himself and one counsel, or by two counsel, and be followed by the party or counsel of the party first addressing the court. No more than two speeches on behalf of the plaintiff or defendant shall be allowed.

Address to
court and
jury.

Limitation of
speeches.

(6) The court shall then charge the jury upon the law in the case. If no request has been made for said charge to be in writing, or if no instructions has been requested, said charge may be oral; but either party at any time before the jury return their verdict, may except to the same or any part thereof; but no exceptions shall be regarded by the Supreme Court, unless the same shall embody the specific parts of said charge to which exception is taken. In charging the jury the court shall state to them all matters of law necessary for the information of the jury in finding a verdict; and if it becomes necessary to allude to the evidence, it shall also inform the jury that they are the exclusive judges of all question of fact.

Charge to
jury.

Exceptions
not to be
regarded by
Supreme
Court.

Passed the House February 19, 1903.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1903.

Approved by the Governor March 12, 1903.

CHAPTER 82.

[H. B. No. 19.]

PRESCRIBING THE LIMIT OF ASSESSMENT FOR LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS.

AN ACT prescribing the limit upon the assessment of abutting property for local improvements in cities of the first class and providing a method of computation for improvement districts, and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. It shall be lawful for any city of the first class to order any improvement, the cost of which is to be charged to abutting property, when said cost shall not ex-

Limit of cost.

ceed fifty per cent. of the valuation of the real estate exclusive of improvements within the proposed improvement district according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation, when such improvement is ordered by a unanimous vote of the council of said city of the first class: *Provided*, That this limit may be exceeded when any improvement shall be petitioned for by the owners of three-fourths of the property to be assessed for said proposed improvement, and when such petition specifies not to exceed a certain higher per centage.

When limit
may be
exceeded.

Computation
of values.

SEC. 2. In computing the valuation of property within said district, any non-assessable property owned by the United States, State, county, city, and town or school district, or other public corporation, shall be valued at the same rate as property immediately opposite or adjacent thereto, and in computing the frontage to be included in said district, all such property, payment for the improvement of which is to be paid out of the general funds, shall be included.

Cities of the
first class.

SEC. 3. Any city of the first class may avail itself of this act, notwithstanding any provision in its charter inconsistent herewith, but it shall not be construed as taking away from any city of the first class any power which it possesses under its charter or any State law.

Emergency.

SEC. 4. An emergency exists and this act shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 6, 1903.

Passed the Senate March 3, 1903.

Approved by the Governor March 12, 1903.