

The real and personal property used by nonprofit (1) day care centers as defined pursuant to RCW 74.15.020 as now or hereafter amended; (2) free public libraries; (3) orphanages and orphan asylums; (4) homes for the aged; (5) homes for the sick or infirm; ~~((and;))~~ (6) hospitals for the sick; and (7) outpatient dialysis facilities, which are used for the purposes of such organizations shall be exempt from taxation: PROVIDED, That the benefit of the exemption inures to the user.

To be exempt under this section, the property must be used exclusively for the purposes for which exemption is granted, except as provided in RCW 84.36.805.

Passed the Senate January 14, 1987.

Passed the House March 30, 1987.

Approved by the Governor April 7, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 7, 1987.

CHAPTER 32

[Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 5955]

SPORTS FRANCHISES—PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

AN ACT Relating to public ownership of professional sports franchises; adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature hereby declares and finds that professional sports franchises are economic, cultural, and entertainment assets to the state and that unilateral actions by the owners of such franchises to move franchises to other locations result in a loss of direct and indirect employment and national visibility for the state. The legislature finds that the retention of professional sports franchises and the enabling authority created by section 2 of this act are public purposes and that section 2 of this act shall not be construed in any manner contrary to the provisions of Article VIII, section 7, of the Washington state Constitution.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Any city, code city, or county, individually or collectively, may own and operate an existing professional sports franchise when the owners of such franchises announce their intention to sell or move a franchise.

(2) If a city, code city, or county purchases a professional sports franchise, a public corporation shall be created to manage and operate the franchise. The public corporation created under this section shall have all of the authorities granted by RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.757.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. 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 March 20, 1987.

Passed the House April 10, 1987.

Approved by the Governor April 10, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 10, 1987.

## CHAPTER 33

[Senate Bill No. 5019]

### SEWER AND WATER DISTRICT FORMATION OR REORGANIZATION— PETITIONS TO SPECIFY PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY ASSESSMENT

AN ACT Relating to sewer and water districts; and amending RCW 56.04.030, 56.04-.050, 57.04.030, and 57.04.050.

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

Sec. 1. Section 2, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 2, chapter 140, Laws of 1945 and RCW 56.04.030 are each amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of formation or reorganization of such sewer districts, a petition shall be presented to the board of county commissioners of the county in which said proposed sewer district is located, which petition shall set forth the object for the creation or reorganization of the said district, shall designate the boundaries thereof and set forth the further fact that the establishment or reorganization of said district will be conducive to the public health, convenience and welfare and will be of benefit to the property included therein. The petition shall specify the proposed property tax levy assessment, if any, which shall not exceed one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, for general preliminary expenses of the district. Said petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five percent of the qualified electors residing within the district described in the said petition: PROVIDED, If in the opinion of the county health officer the existing sewerage disposal facilities are inadequate in the district to be created only, and it is for the public welfare, then the board of county commissioners of such county may declare a sewerage disposal district a necessity, and such district shall be organized under the provisions of this title, and all amendments thereto. The said petition or resolution shall be filed with the county auditor, who shall, within ten days examine the signatures thereof and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency. For such purpose the county auditor shall have access to all registration books in the possession of the officers of any political subdivision in such proposed district. No person having signed such a petition shall be allowed to withdraw his name therefrom after the filing of the same with the county auditor. If such petition shall be found to contain a sufficient number of signatures, the county auditor shall transmit the same, together with his certificate of sufficiency attached thereto to the