

CHAPTER 161.

[ H. B. 129. ]

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

AN Act relating to fire protection district local improvement districts; amending section 40, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.010; section 41, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.020; adding a new section to chapter 52.20 RCW; and repealing sections 42 and 43, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.030 and 52.20.040.

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

RCW 52.20.010 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 40, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.010 are each amended to read as follows:

L. I. D.'s authorized—Initiated by resolution or petition.

In any instance where for fire protection purposes the acquisition, maintenance and operation of real property, buildings, fire fighting equipment, apparatus and instrumentalities necessary therefor are of special benefit to part or all of the lands in the fire prevention district, the board of fire commissioners shall have authority to include such lands in a local improvement district, and to contract for operating such facilities, and to levy special assessments under a mode of annual installments extending over a period not exceeding twenty years on all property specially benefited by any local improvement, on the basis of the special benefits to pay in whole or in part the damages or costs of any improvements ordered in such fire protection district. The duties devolving upon the city treasurer under said laws are imposed upon the county treasurer for the purposes of this chapter. Such local improvement districts may be initiated either by resolution of the board of fire commissioners or by petition signed by the owners of a majority of the acreage of lands to be included within the local improvement district.

If the petition procedure is followed, said petition

shall set forth generally the necessity for the creation of a local improvement district, outline the plan of fire protection to be accomplished, and the means by which the cost of the same shall be financed. Upon receipt of said petition, said district shall at its next regular meeting examine the same. The assessed owners of said lands as shown on the general tax roll in the county treasurer's office, last equalized, shall be prima facie evidence of the ownership of the lands to be included in said local improvement district. If said petition is found sufficient, said district board shall proceed to consider the same and to determine whether such local improvement appears feasible and of special benefit to the lands concerned.

In case the board of fire commissioners shall desire to initiate the formation of a local improvement district by resolution, it shall first pass a resolution declaring its intention to order such improvement, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, designating the number of the proposed district, describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expenses of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed district, and fixing a date, time and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed district.

SEC. 2. Section 41, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.020 are each amended to read as follows:

If said petition is found insufficient or if said district board shall determine that such a local improvement district is unfeasible or of no special benefit to the lands concerned, it shall dismiss said petition. If said district board shall approve said petition or adopts a resolution of intention to order an improvement, it shall fix a day, hour and place for hearing the same and shall (1) mail notice of

RCW 52.20.020 amended.

Action on petition—Procedure if petition approved or resolution of intention adopted—Notice of hearing.

said hearing at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing to the owner or reputed owner of each lot, tract, parcel of land or other property within the proposed improvement district as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer at the address shown thereon, and (2) publish notice of said hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, to be selected by said board, for three consecutive weekly issues thereof published prior to the day of said hearing. The cost of said publication shall be advanced or paid in advance by the petitioners or, in the case of initiation by the board of fire commissioners, such costs shall be paid by the board. Such notice shall describe the boundaries of the proposed local improvement district, shall state that the lands within the said boundaries are proposed to be included within a local improvement district, shall mention the plan of fire protection proposed and the means by which the cost of the same shall be financed, shall state the day, hour and place of hearing on said petition and shall be signed by the secretary of the fire protection district.

New section.

SEC. 3. There is added to chapter 52.20 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Proceedings in  
accord with  
chapter 56.20  
RCW.

The hearing for which notice is given in section 2 of this amendatory act and all subsequent proceedings in connection with the local improvement, including but not limited to the levying, collection and enforcement of local improvement assessments, shall be in accordance with the provisions of law applicable to sewer district local improvement district improvements set forth in chapter 56.20 RCW as now or hereafter amended, and references therein to the board of sewer commissioners and secretary of the board of sewer commissioners shall be deemed references to the board of fire district commissioners and secretary of the board of fire district commissioners, respectively.

SEC. 4. Sections 42 and 43, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 and RCW 52.20.030 and 52.20.040 are each repealed. Repeal.

SEC. 5. Nothing contained in this act shall apply to any tracts or parcels of wholly forest type lands within the district which are required to pay forest protection assessments, as required in RCW 76.04-.360; however, both the tax levy or special assessments of the district and the forest patrol assessment shall apply on the forest land portion of any tract or parcel which is in the district containing a combination of both forest type lands and nonforest type lands or improvements: *Provided, however,* That the owner shall have the right to have forest type lands of more than twenty acres in extent separated from land bearing improvements and from nonforest type lands for such taxation and assessment purposes upon furnishing to the assessor a written request containing the proper legal description. Forest type lands excluded under act.

Passed the House March 9, 1961.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1961.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1961.

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## CHAPTER 162.

[ H. B. 130. ]

### LIBRARY DISTRICT LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to local improvement districts for library purposes.

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

SECTION 1. As used in this act:

“Library district” means a rural county library district, or intercounty rural library district. “Library district” defined.

SEC. 2. In any instance where the acquisition of land, buildings or capital equipment, or the construction of library buildings are of special benefit Library district L. I. D.'s authorized—Initiation.