

months, or by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.

SEC. 2. *Severability.* If any provision or clause of this act or application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable. Severability.

Passed the Senate March 29, 1965.

Passed the House March 25, 1965.

Approved by the Governor April 8, 1965.

CHAPTER 113.

[Senate Bill No. 78.]

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS—EXCESS LEVIES.

AN ACT relating to fire protection districts; establishing the number of voters necessary for an election to authorize excess property tax levies; amending section 84.52.052, chapter 15, Laws of 1961, as amended by section 1, chapter 112, Laws of 1963, and RCW 84.52.052.

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

SECTION 1. Section 84.52.052, chapter 15, Laws of 1961, as amended by section 1, chapter 112, Laws of 1963, and RCW 84.52.052 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 84.52.052 defined.

The limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056, shall not prevent the levy of additional taxes, not in excess of five mills a year and without anticipation of delinquencies in payment of taxes, in an amount equal to the interest and principal payable in the next succeeding year on general obligation bonds, outstanding on December 6, 1934, issued by or through the agency of the state,

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or any county, city, town, or school district, or the levy of additional taxes to pay interest on or toward the reduction, at the rates provided by statute, of the principal of county, city, town, or school district warrants outstanding on December 6, 1932; but this millage limitation with respect to general obligation bonds shall not apply to any taxing district in which a larger levy is necessary in order to prevent the impairment of the obligation of contracts. Any county, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district in Class AA counties and counties of the second, eighth and ninth class, sewer district, water district, public hospital district, rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city or town may levy taxes at a rate in excess of the rate specified in RCW 84.52.050 through 84.52.056, when authorized so to do by the electors of such county, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district in Class AA counties and counties of the second, eighth and ninth class, sewer district, water district, public hospital district, rural county library district, intercounty rural library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city or town by a three-fifths majority of those voting on the proposition at a special election, to be held in the year in which the levy is made, and not oftener than twice in such year, in the manner provided by law for holding general elections, at such time as may be fixed by the body authorized to call the same, which special election may be called by the board of county commissioners, board of school directors, or council, board of commissioners, or other governing body of any metropolitan park district, park and recreation district in Class AA counties and counties of the second, eighth and ninth class, sewer district, water district, public hospital district, rural

county library district, intercounty rural library district, fire protection district, cemetery district, city or town, by giving notice thereof by publication in the manner provided by law for giving notices of general elections, at which special election the proposition of authorizing such excess levy shall be submitted in such form as to enable the voters favoring the proposition to vote "Yes," and those opposed thereto to vote "No": *Provided*, That the total number of persons voting at such special election must constitute not less than forty percent of the voters in said taxing district who voted at the last preceding general state election: *Provided further*, That the total number of persons voting on an excess levy for school district purposes or for fire protection purposes or for cities and towns at any such special election of such districts or of any city or town must constitute not less than forty percent of the voters in such taxing districts or in any city or town, as the case may be who voted at the last preceding general election in such district.

Passed the Senate March 29, 1965.

Passed the House March 24, 1965.

Approved by the Governor April 8, 1965.