

CHAPTER 477

[Senate Bill No. 5335]

BOUNDARY REVIEW BOARDS—OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS—NOTICE—
JURISDICTION—REVIEW—FEES

AN ACT Relating to boundary review boards; and amending RCW 36.93.070, 36.93.090, 36.93.100, 36.93.110, 36.93.120, 36.93.130, 36.93.150, and 36.93.160.

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

Sec. 1. Section 7, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 and RCW 36.93.070 are each amended to read as follows:

The members of each boundary review board shall elect from its members a chairman, vice chairman, and shall employ a nonmember as chief clerk, who shall be the secretary of the board. The board shall determine its own rules and order of business and shall provide by resolution for the time and manner of holding all regular or special meetings(~~(, and)~~): PROVIDED, That all meetings shall be subject to chapter 42.30 RCW. The board shall keep a journal of its proceedings which shall be a public record. A majority of all the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The chief clerk of the board shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, certify to all official acts, issue subpoenas to any public officer or employee ordering him to testify before the board and produce public records, papers, books or documents. The chief clerk may invoke the aid of any court of competent jurisdiction to carry out such powers.

The board by rule may provide for hearings by panels of members consisting of not less than five board members, the number of hearing panels and members thereof, and for the impartial selection of panel members. A majority of a panel shall constitute a quorum thereof.

At the request of the board, the state attorney general, or at the board's option, the county prosecuting attorney, shall provide counsel for the board.

The planning departments of the county, other counties, and any city, and any state or regional planning agency shall furnish such information to the board at its request as may be reasonably necessary for the performance of its duties.

Each member of the board shall be compensated from the county current expense fund at the rate of twenty-five dollars per day, or a major portion thereof, for time actually devoted to the work of the boundary review board. Each board of county commissioners shall provide such funds as shall be necessary to pay the salaries of the members and staff, and such other expenses as shall be reasonably necessary.

Sec. 2. Section 7, chapter 10, Laws of 1982 as amended by section 28, chapter 281, Laws of 1985 and RCW 36.93.090 are each amended to read as follows:

Whenever any of the following described actions are proposed in a county in which a board has been established, the initiators of the action shall file within one hundred eighty days a notice of intention with the board(~~(, which)~~): PROVIDED, That when the initiator is the legislative body of a governmental unit, the notice of intention may be filed immediately following the body's first acceptance or approval of the action. The board may review any such proposed actions pertaining to:

(1) The: (a) Creation, incorporation, or change in the boundary, other than a consolidation, of any city, town, or special purpose district; (b) consolidation of special purpose districts, but not including consolidation of cities and towns; or (c) dissolution or disincorporation of any city, town, or special purpose district, except that a board may not review the dissolution or disincorporation of a special purpose district which was dissolved or disincorporated pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.96 RCW: PROVIDED, That the change in the boundary of a city or town arising from the annexation of contiguous city or town owned property held for a public purpose shall be exempted from the requirements of this section; or

(2) The assumption by any city or town of all or part of the assets, facilities, or indebtedness of a special purpose district which lies partially within such city or town; or

(3) The establishment of or change in the boundaries of a mutual water and sewer system or separate sewer system by a water district pursuant to RCW 57.08.065 or chapter 57.40 RCW, as now or hereafter amended; or

(4) The establishment of or change in the boundaries of a mutual sewer and water system or separate water system by a sewer district pursuant to RCW 56.20.015 or chapter 56.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended; or

(5) The extension of permanent water or sewer service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district.

Sec. 3. Section 10, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as last amended by section 1, chapter 76, Laws of 1983 and RCW 36.93.100 are each amended to read as follows:

The board shall review and approve, disapprove, or modify any of the actions set forth in RCW 36.93.090 when any of the following shall occur within ~~((sixty))~~ forty-five days of the filing of a notice of intention:

(1) ~~((The chairman or any))~~ Three members of ((the)) a five-member boundary review board or five members of a boundary review board in a class AA county files a request for review: PROVIDED, That the members of the boundary review board shall not be authorized to file a request for review of the following actions:

(a) The incorporation or change in the boundary of any city, town, or special purpose district;

(b) The extension of permanent water service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district where such extension is through the installation of water mains of six inches or less in diameter; or

(c) The extension of permanent sewer service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district where such extension is through the installation of sewer mains of eight inches or less in diameter;

(2) Any governmental unit affected, or the county within which the area of the proposed action is located, files a request for review of the specific action;

(3) A petition requesting review is filed and is signed by:

(a) Five percent of the registered voters residing within the area which is being considered for the proposed action (as determined by the boundary review board in its discretion subject to immediate review by writ of certiorari to the superior court); or

(b) An owner or owners of property consisting of five percent of the assessed valuation within such area;

(4) The majority of the members of boundary review boards concur with a request for review when a petition requesting the review is filed by five percent of the registered voters who deem themselves affected by the action and reside within one-quarter mile of the proposed action but not within the jurisdiction proposing the action.

If a period of ~~((sixty))~~ forty-five days shall elapse without the board's jurisdiction having been invoked as set forth in this section, the proposed action shall be deemed approved.

If a review of a proposal is requested, the board shall make a finding as prescribed in RCW 36.93.150 within one hundred twenty days after the filing of such a request for review. If this period of one hundred twenty days shall elapse without the board making a finding as prescribed in RCW 36.93.150, the proposal shall be deemed approved unless the board and the person who submitted the proposal agree to an extension of the one hundred twenty day period.

Sec. 4. Section 11, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as amended by section 42, chapter 195, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 36.93.110 are each amended to read as follows:

~~((In case of annexation to a city or a town;))~~ Where ((the)) an area proposed for annexation is less than ten acres and less than ((eight hundred thousand)) two million dollars in assessed valuation, the chairman of the review board may by written statement declare that review by the board is not necessary for the protection of the interest of the various parties, in which case the board shall not review such annexation.

Sec. 5. Section 12, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as amended by section 6, chapter 111, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 36.93.120 are each amended to read as follows:

A fee of ~~((twenty-five))~~ fifty dollars shall be paid by all initiators and in addition if the jurisdiction of the review board is invoked pursuant to RCW 36.93.100, the person or entity seeking review, except for the boundary review board itself, shall pay to the county treasurer and place in the county current expense fund the ~~((sum))~~ fee of ((one)) two hundred dollars.

Sec. 6. Section 13, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as amended by section 7, chapter 111, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 36.93.130 are each amended to read as follows:

The notice of intention shall contain the following information:

- (1) The nature of the action sought;
- (2) A brief statement of the reasons for the proposed action;
- (3) The legal description of the boundaries proposed to be created, abolished or changed by such action: PROVIDED, That the legal description may be altered, with concurrence of the initiators of the proposed action, if a person designated by the county legislative authority as one who has expertise in legal descriptions makes a determination that the legal description is erroneous; and

(4) A county assessor's map on which the boundaries proposed to be created, abolished or changed by such action are designated: PROVIDED, That at the discretion of the boundary review board a map other than the county assessor's map may be accepted.

Sec. 7. Section 15, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as last amended by section 13, chapter 5, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. and RCW 36.93.150 are each amended to read as follows:

The board, upon review of any proposed action, shall take such of the following actions as it deems necessary to best carry out the intent of this chapter:

- (1) Approval of the proposal as submitted;
- (2) Subject to RCW 35.02.170, modification of the proposal by adjusting boundaries to add or delete territory: PROVIDED, That any proposal for annexation by the board shall be subject to RCW 35.21.010 and shall not add additional territory, the amount of which is greater than that included in the original proposal: PROVIDED FURTHER, That such modifications shall not interfere with the authority of a city, town, or special purpose district to require or not require preannexation agreements, covenants, or petitions;

(3) Determination of a division of assets and liabilities between two or more governmental units where relevant;

(4) Determination whether, or the extent to which, functions of a special purpose district are to be assumed by an incorporated city or town,

metropolitan municipal corporation, or another existing special purpose district; or

(5) Disapproval of the proposal except that the board shall not have jurisdiction to disapprove the dissolution or disincorporation of a special purpose district which is not providing services but shall have jurisdiction over the determination of a division of the assets and liabilities of a dissolved or disincorporated special purpose district: PROVIDED, That a board shall not have jurisdiction over the division of assets and liabilities of a special purpose district that is dissolved or disincorporated pursuant to chapter 36.96 RCW.

Unless the board shall disapprove a proposal, it shall be presented under the appropriate statute for approval of a public body and, if required, a vote of the people. A proposal that has been modified shall be presented under the appropriate statute for approval of a public body and if required, a vote of the people. If a proposal, other than that for a city, town, or special purpose district annexation, after modification does not contain enough signatures of persons within the modified area, as are required by law, then the initiating party, parties or governmental unit has thirty days after the modification decision to secure enough signatures to satisfy the legal requirement. If the signatures cannot be secured then the proposal may be submitted to a vote of the people, as required by law.

The addition or deletion of property by the board shall not invalidate a petition which had previously satisfied the sufficiency of signature provisions of RCW 35.13.130 or 35A.14.120. When the board, after due proceedings held, disapproves a proposed action, such proposed action shall be unavailable, the proposing agency shall be without power to initiate the same or substantially the same as determined by the board, and any succeeding acts intended to or tending to effectuate that action shall be void, but such action may be reinitiated after a period of twelve months from date of disapproval and shall again be subject to the same consideration.

The board shall not modify or deny a proposed action unless there is evidence on the record to support a conclusion that the action is inconsistent with one or more of the objectives under RCW 36.93.180. Every such determination to modify or deny a proposed action shall be made in writing pursuant to a motion, and shall be supported by appropriate written findings and conclusions, based on the record.

Sec. 8. Section 16, chapter 189, Laws of 1967 as last amended by section 97, chapter 81, Laws of 1971 and RCW 36.93.160 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) When the jurisdiction of the boundary review board has been invoked, the board shall set the date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposal. The board shall give at least thirty days' advance written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing to the governing body of each governmental unit having jurisdiction within the boundaries of the territory

proposed to be annexed, formed, incorporated, disincorporated, dissolved or consolidated, or within the boundaries of a special district whose assets and facilities are proposed to be assumed by a city or town, and to the governing body of each city within three miles of the exterior boundaries of such area and to the proponent of such change. Notice shall also be given by publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed boundary change at least three times, the last publication of which shall be not less than five days prior to the date set for the public hearing. Notice shall also be posted in ten public places in the area affected for five days when the area is ten acres or more. When the area affected is less than ten acres, five notices shall be posted in five public places for five days. ~~((If the board after such hearing shall determine to modify the proposal by adding territory, then the board shall set a date, time and place for an additional hearing on the modification, for which notice shall be given as provided in this subsection.))~~ Notice as provided in this subsection shall include any territory which the board has determined to consider adding in accordance with RCW 36.93.150(2).

(2) A verbatim record shall be made of all testimony presented at the hearing and upon request and payment of the reasonable costs thereof, a copy of the transcript of such testimony shall be provided to any person or governmental unit.

(3) The chairman upon majority vote of the board or a panel may direct the chief clerk of the boundary review board to issue subpoenas to any public officer to testify, and to compel the production by him of any records, books, documents, public records or public papers.

(4) Within forty days after the conclusion of the final hearing on the proposal, the board shall file its written decision, setting forth the reasons therefor, with the board of county commissioners and the clerk of each governmental unit directly affected. The written decision shall indicate whether the proposed change is approved, rejected or modified and, if modified, the terms of such modification. The written decision need not include specific data on every factor required to be considered by the board, but shall indicate that all standards were given consideration. Dissenting members of the board shall have the right to have their written dissents included as part of the decision.

(5) Unanimous decisions of the hearing panel or a decision of a majority of the members of the board shall constitute the decision of the board and shall not be appealable to the whole board. Any other decision shall be appealable to the entire board within ten days. Appeals shall be on the record, which shall be furnished by the appellant, but the board may, in its sole discretion, permit the introduction of additional evidence and argument. Decisions shall be final and conclusive unless within ten days from the

date of said action a governmental unit affected by the decision or any person owning real property or residing in the area affected by the decision files in the superior court a notice of appeal.

The filing of such notice of appeal within such time limit shall stay the effective date of the decision of the board until such time as the appeal shall have been adjudicated or withdrawn. On appeal the superior court shall not take any evidence other than that contained in the record of the hearing before the board.

(6) The superior court may affirm the decision of the board or remand the case for further proceedings; or it may reverse the decision if any substantial rights may have been prejudiced because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are:

- (a) In violation of constitutional provisions, or
- (b) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the board, or
- (c) Made upon unlawful procedure, or
- (d) Affected by other error of law, or
- (e) Unsupported by material and substantial evidence in view of the entire record as submitted, or
- (f) Arbitrary or capricious.

An aggrieved party may secure a review of any final judgment of the superior court by appeal to the supreme court or the court of appeals. Such appeal shall be taken in the manner provided by law for appeals from the superior court in other civil cases.

Passed the Senate April 18, 1987.

Passed the House April 8, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1987.

CHAPTER 478

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 5632]

LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

AN ACT Relating to the learning assistance program; adding new sections to Title 28A RCW; and repealing RCW 28A.41.400, 28A.41.402, 28A.41.404, 28A.41.406, 28A.41.408, 28A.41.410, and 28A.41.414.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that an important and effective means of improving the educational performance of many students with special needs is to improve the general education program. The legislature also finds that there is a continuum of educational program needs among students with learning problems or poor academic performance. The legislature wants to encourage school districts to serve students with special needs within the regular classroom. Therefore, the legislature intends to replace the remediation program with a broader range of program options,