(2) Not less than sixty thousand dollars, to the department of health, for the purposes of section 3 of this act.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1990.
Passed the House March 1, 1990.
Approved by the Governor March 28, 1990.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 28, 1990.

CHAPTER 254
[Substitute House Bill No. 2726]
PORT DISTRICT INDEBTEDNESS

AN ACT Relating to debt funding flexibility for port districts; amending RCW 53.36-.030; and declaring an emergency.

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

Sec. 1. Section 12, chapter 65, Laws of 1955 as last amended by section 41, chapter 186, Laws of 1984 and RCW 53.36.030 are each amended to read as follows:

A district may at any time contract indebtedness or borrow money for district purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor not exceeding an amount, together with any existing indebtedness of the district not authorized by the voters, of one-fourth of one percent of the value of the taxable property in the district; and, with the assent of three-fifths of the voters voting thereon at a general or special port election called for that purpose, may contract indebtedness or borrow money for district purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor provided the total indebtedness of the district at any such time shall not exceed three-fourths of one percent of the value of the taxable property in the district: PROVIDED FURTHER, That port districts having less than two hundred million dollars in value of taxable property and operating a municipal airport may at any time contract indebtedness or borrow money for airport capital improvement purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor not exceeding an additional one-eighth of one percent of the value of the taxable property in the district without authorization by the voters; and, with the assent of three-fifths of the voters voting thereon at a general or special port election called for that purpose, may contract indebtedness or borrow money for airport capital improvement purposes and may issue general obligation bonds therefor for an additional three-eighths of one percent provided the total indebtedness of the district for all port purposes at any such time shall not exceed one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property in the district. Any district may issue general district bonds evidencing any indebtedness, payable at any time not exceeding fifty years from the date of the bonds. Such elections shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050.

For the purpose of this section, "indebtedness of the district" shall not include any debt of a county–wide district with a population less than twenty–five hundred people when the debt is secured by a mortgage on property leased to the federal government; and the term "value of the taxable property" shall have the meaning set forth in RCW 39.36.015.

Such bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 12, 1990.
Passed the Senate March 7, 1990.
Approved by the Governor March 28, 1990.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 28, 1990.

CHAPTER 255
[Substitute Senate Bill No. 6859]
COMPUTER SOFTWARE—TAX ASSESSMENT

AN ACT Relating to the tax status of computer software; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Computer software development is a rapidly changing and complex field;

(b) There are substantial public policy questions regarding valuation and taxation of computer software;

(c) Fairness and equity require consistent tax treatment of computer software by all county assessors;

(d) Thorough study of computer software taxation is necessary before a permanent tax policy can be adopted; and

(e) Any inequities that might result from temporarily restricting the ability of county assessors to list and assess computer software are more than offset by avoidance of unfair and inconsistent tax treatment of computer software.

(2) The intent of this act is to delay any significant change in the manner or extent of taxation of computer software until uniform definitions and standards of taxation can be developed and enacted by the legislature.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. For property taxes due in 1991, a county assessor shall list and assess computer software in the same manner and to the same extent as computer software was listed and assessed for taxes due in 1989. If the assessor adds an item of computer software to the assessment