

**CHAPTER 1**

[Initiative 655]

**METHODS OF TAKING WILDLIFE**

AN ACT Relating to methods of taking wildlife; adding a new section to chapter 77.16 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 77.16 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 77.12.240 and 77.12.265 or other provisions of law, it is unlawful to take, hunt, or attract black bear with the aid of bait.

(a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the killing of black bear with the aid of bait by employees or agents of county, state, or federal agencies while acting in their official capacities for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety.

(b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the establishment and operation of feeding stations for black bear in order to prevent damage to commercial timber land.

(c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for the use of bait to attract black bear for scientific purposes.

(d) As used in this subsection, "bait" means a substance placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the purpose of attracting black bears to an area where one or more persons hunt or intend to hunt them.

(2) Notwithstanding RCW 77.12.240 or any other provisions of law, it is unlawful to hunt or pursue black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of a dog or dogs.

(a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the killing of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of a dog or dogs by employees or agents of county, state, or federal agencies while acting in their official capacities for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety. A dog or dogs may be used by the owner or tenant of real property consistent with a permit issued and conditioned by the director under RCW 77.12.265.

(b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for the use of a dog or dogs for the pursuit of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx for scientific purposes.

(3) A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. In addition to appropriate criminal penalties, the director shall revoke the hunting license of a person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this

section and a hunting license shall not be issued for a period of five years following the revocation. Following a subsequent violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this section by the same person, a hunting license shall not be issued to the person at any time.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Originally filed in Office of Secretary of State January 12, 1996.

Approved by the People of the State of Washington in the General Election on November 5, 1996.

**CHAPTER 2**

[Engrossed House Bill 1417]

**PROPERTY TAX LEVY REDUCTION--PARTIAL REFERENDUM**

AN ACT Relating to reducing total state levy amounts by 4.7187 percent; amending RCW 84.55.012; adding a new section to chapter 84.55 RCW; creating a new section; providing for submission of a section of this act to a vote of the people; and declaring an emergency.

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

**Sec. 1.** RCW 84.55.012 and 1995 2nd sp.s. c 13 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The state property tax levy for collection in 1996 shall be reduced by 4.7187 percent of the levy amount that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter without regard to this section or any other tax reduction legislation enacted in 1995.

~~(2) ((The tax reduction provided in this section is in addition to any other tax reduction legislation that may be enacted by the legislature.~~

~~—(3))~~ State levies for collection after ~~((1996))~~ 1997 shall be set at the amount that would be allowed otherwise under this chapter if the state ~~((levy))~~ levies for collection in 1996 and 1997 had been set without the reduction under subsection (1) of this section.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 84.55 RCW to read as follows:

The state property tax levy for collection in 1998 shall be reduced by 4.7187 percent of the levy amount that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter without regard to this section.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act applies to taxes levied for collection in 1997.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 4.** Section 1 of 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 takes effect immediately.