
SENATE BILL 5491

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Nelson, Swecker, Chase, and Shin

Read first time 01/27/11. Referred to Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting the authority of boundary review boards
2 to expand an annexation to twice the area of the proposed annexation;
3 and amending RCW 36.93.150.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.93.150 and 1994 c 216 s 15 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

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

10 (1) Approve the proposal as submitted.

11 (2) Subject to RCW 35.02.170, modify the proposal by adjusting
12 boundaries to add or delete territory. (~~However, any proposal for~~
13 ~~annexation of territory to a town shall be subject to RCW 35.21.010 and~~
14 ~~the board shall not add additional territory, the amount of which is~~
15 ~~greater than that included in the original proposal.)) Subject to the
16 requirements of this chapter, a board may modify a proposal by adding
17 territory that would increase the total area of the proposal before the
18 board. A board, however, may not modify a proposal for annexation of
19 territory to a city or town by adding an amount of territory that~~

1 constitutes more than one hundred percent of the total area of the
2 proposal before the board. Any modifications shall not interfere with
3 the authority of a city, town, or special purpose district to require
4 or not require preannexation agreements, covenants, or petitions. A
5 board shall not modify the proposed incorporation of a city with an
6 estimated population of seven thousand five hundred or more by removing
7 territory from the proposal, or adding territory to the proposal, that
8 constitutes ten percent or more of the total area included within the
9 proposal before the board. However, a board shall remove territory in
10 the proposed incorporation that is located outside of an urban growth
11 area or is annexed by a city or town, and may remove territory in the
12 proposed incorporation if a petition or resolution proposing the
13 annexation is filed or adopted that has priority over the proposed
14 incorporation, before the area is established that is subject to this
15 ten percent restriction on removing or adding territory. A board shall
16 not modify the proposed incorporation of a city with a population of
17 seven thousand five hundred or more to reduce the territory in such a
18 manner as to reduce the population below seven thousand five hundred.

19 (3) Determine a division of assets and liabilities between two or
20 more governmental units where relevant.

21 (4) Determine whether, or the extent to which, functions of a
22 special purpose district are to be assumed by an incorporated city or
23 town, metropolitan municipal corporation, or another existing special
24 purpose district.

25 (5) Disapprove the proposal except that the board shall not have
26 jurisdiction: (a) To disapprove the dissolution or disincorporation of
27 a special purpose district which is not providing services but shall
28 have jurisdiction over the determination of a division of the assets
29 and liabilities of a dissolved or disincorporated special purpose
30 district; (b) over the division of assets and liabilities of a special
31 purpose district that is dissolved or disincorporated pursuant to
32 chapter 36.96 RCW; nor (c) to disapprove the incorporation of a city
33 with an estimated population of seven thousand five hundred or more,
34 but the board may recommend against the proposed incorporation of a
35 city with such an estimated population.

36 Unless the board disapproves a proposal, it shall be presented
37 under the appropriate statute for approval of a public body and, if
38 required, a vote of the people. A proposal that has been modified

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

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

20 The board shall not modify or deny a proposed action unless there
21 is evidence on the record to support a conclusion that the action is
22 inconsistent with one or more of the objectives under RCW 36.93.180.
23 The board may not increase the area of a city or town annexation unless
24 it holds a separate public hearing on the proposed increase and
25 provides ten or more days' notice of the hearing to the registered
26 voters and property owners residing within the area subject to the
27 proposed increase. Every such determination to modify or deny a
28 proposed action shall be made in writing pursuant to a motion, and
29 shall be supported by appropriate written findings and conclusions,
30 based on the record.

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