

Central Pierce Fire & Rescue

Fire Protection District No. 6



Special Election - Proposition No. 1 - Submitted by Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 6
REGULAR TAX LEVY

Ballot Title: The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 6, Pierce County, Washington, adopted Resolution No. 02-09 concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation expenses. This proposition, if approved, will authorize the District to increase its regular tax levy to \$1.00 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation as allowed by RCW 84.55.050, and notwithstanding the otherwise applicable limitations contained in RCW Chapter 84.55, with proceeds used to finance maintenance and operation expenses for fire protection and emergency medical services, all as provided in Resolution No. 02-09. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement: This proposition will authorize the property tax levy rate to remain at \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to provide voters the opportunity to exceed the limitation imposed by Initiative 747, which would limit total property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue, regardless of the authorized dollar rate limitation of \$1.00.

This proposition meets the requirement of Initiative 747, that the voters approve any increase in revenue of more than 1%, over the previous year.

Approval of this proposition would allow the maintaining of the current level of services.

Rejection of this proposition could lead to the loss of almost \$500,000 in tax revenue annually, which would necessitate cutbacks in fire department services, by the potential reduction in the workforce, and the elimination of future purchases of emergency equipment necessary to keep up with the increased number of calls for service and the growth of the community. This limitation will compound yearly as the costs of providing the service grow at a rate above 1%.

Statement For:

Initiative 747 calls for a vote of the citizens to increase local taxes above the 1% limitation. Our fire department is being fiscally prudent and responsible to the taxpayer by asking for the authorization to collect the \$1.00 allowed by law. The 1% limitation erodes the operating budget of the department because costs grow faster than 1%. All this proposition does is maintain the current status of our emergency services. It is *not* a new tax. Merely, "lifting the lid" back to the authorized amount.

In these uncertain times, it is nice to be sure of our fire department, we know they will be there for us, let's give them the tools they need to maintain what we have. Please vote **Yes** on Proposition 1.

Committee Members Include: John Sinclair

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

This space is available each election for citizens and/or committees opposing measures to publish a Statement Against. For information, contact the Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-7430.

Central Pierce Fire & Rescue

Fire Protection District No. 6



Special Election - Proposition No. 2 - Submitted by Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 6
REGULAR EMS TAX LEVY

Ballot Title: The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 6, Pierce County, Washington, adopted Resolution No. 02-10 concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation expenses. This proposition, if approved, will authorize the District to increase its regular EMS tax levy to fifty cents or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation as allowed by RCW 84.55.050, and notwithstanding the otherwise applicable limitations contained in RCW Chapter 84.55, with proceeds used to finance maintenance and operation expenses for emergency medical services, all as provided in Resolution No. 02-10. Should this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement: This proposition will authorize the property tax EMS levy rate to remain at \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to provide voters the opportunity to exceed the limitation imposed by Initiative 747, which would limit total property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue, regardless of the authorized dollar rate limitation of \$.50.

This proposition meets the requirement of Initiative 747, that the voters approve any increase in revenue of more than 1%, over the previous year. In 2001, voters approved the EMS Levy at \$.50, this would continue that authorized amount.

Approval of this proposition would allow the maintaining of the current level of services.

Rejection of this proposition could lead to the loss of almost \$93,000 in tax revenue annually, which would necessitate cutbacks in fire department services. Over time it could lead to the potential reduction in the workforce, and the elimination of future purchases of emergency equipment necessary to keep up with the increased number of calls for service and the growth of the community. This limitation will compound yearly as the costs of providing the service grow at a rate above 1%.

Statement For:

Initiative 747 calls for a vote of the citizens to increase local taxes above the 1% limitation. Our fire department is being fiscally prudent and responsible to the taxpayer by asking for the authorization to collect the \$.50 allowed by law and the voters. The 1% limitation erodes the operating budget of the department because costs grow faster than 1%. All this proposition does is maintain the current status of our emergency services. It is *not* a new tax. Merely, reauthorizing what we voted for with the EMS Levy last year.

In these uncertain times, it is nice to be sure of our fire department, we know they will be there for us, let's give them the tools they need to maintain what we have. Please vote Yes on Proposition 2.

Committee Members Include: John Sinclair

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

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