

What is Senate Bill 5066 & What Will it Do?



(No Small Nuts!)

Senate Bill 5066

Senate Bill 5066 was created in 2019 was recently refilled in January by our State Senators. They tried to ram the bill through in 2019 but it failed to make it out of the Senate.. meaning it was voted down in the Senate. So what has happened in 2020? Our Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction just keeps lobbying and asking our Legislators to file this bill. It is evident that he does not feel that no means no.

What Would This Bill Do?

This is the same bill from 2019 that would lower the 60% vote requirement threshold down to 50% plus one vote approval to pass ALL school bonds. Yes, this is the bill that certain school district support groups in SK keep supporting in efforts to pass any and all bonds at any time that they think they need! Why? Why of course to build a 2nd SK high school in SK for a start. A second high school that we still do not need! To date the District has not done outreach to voters to see if they might first support a remodel and expansion of the existing high school. The District has still not provided the voters a list of priorities regarding which school and building are in most need of repair, or perhaps replacement.

What Is It: A Senate Bill to lower the current supermajority voter approval for School District Bond Levies to pass.

What Will It Change: If the Senate Bill (SB-5066) passes then the current 60% super majority of votes required to pass ALL future South Kitsap School District Bonds will be lowered to 50% simple majority of votes, IF we voted for this change. All of Washington State Voter's would be voting on whether or not to make this change, and yes - all that will be required is that the ballot measure pass by a simple majority of votes – 50% plus one!

What Does This Mean for Us: South Kitsap School District could continue to run as many ballot measures for as many Bonds as they want, until they reach the mandated maximum limit.

What is Washington State Limit: No Bond issue may exceed three-eighths of one percent of the district's total valuation of taxable property without voter approval. The three-eighths percent limit is uniform for all taxing districts in Washington State.

Other Expected Consequences: In addition to a guarantee of higher property taxes, over a 5 year period, it is estimated the State will pay an additional \$1.25 billion in increased School Construction Assistance Program funds (SCAP) that they (meaning we taxpayers) give to School Districts for new construction.

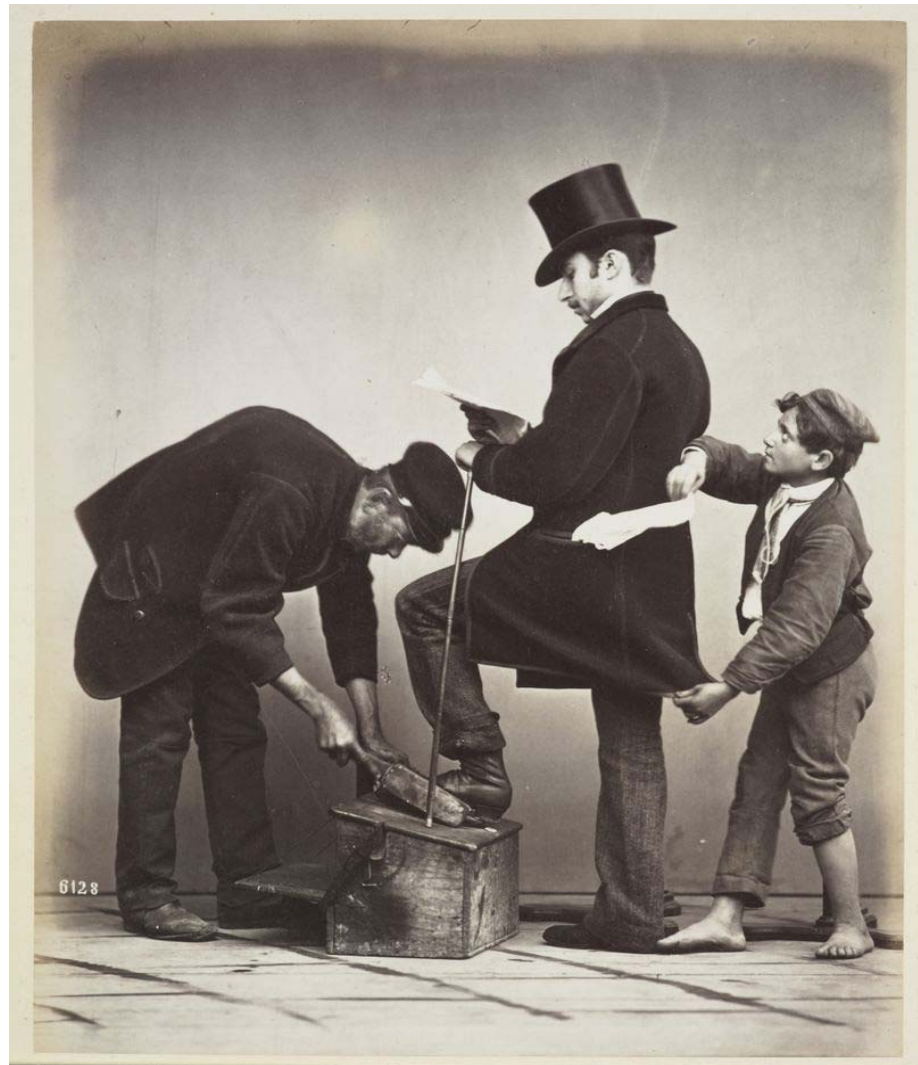
This will result in additional costs to all taxpayers if the state is unable to meet growing SCAP funding requirements (current funding becomes exhausted) and/or could impact increase in future funding in order to remain in full compliance with our Washington State Supreme Court's order (McClearly Lawsuit) that requires our State to fully fund basic educational needs for K-12 grades.

Links to SB- 5066

Link to SB- 5066: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?Year=2019&BillNumber=5066>

and: <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2019-20/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/5066.pdf?q=20200126125129>

Also of interest



House & Senate Bills to Raise Current Levy Enrichment Tax Rates

Our Senators and Representatives are also trying to raise the current School Enrichment Levy Collection Rates. Here are the links to the new House and Senate Bills being worked on in Olympia that are intended to raise the levy enrichment rates by an additional \$2.50 per \$1,000 of property valuation.

Link to HB-2237: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=2237&Year=2019&Initiative=false>

and: <http://lawfilesexternal.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2019-20/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/Senate/6075%20SBA%20EDU%2020.pdf?q=20200126124943>

Link to SB-6075: <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/SB6075/2019>

and: <https://legiscan.com/WA/text/SB6075/2019>

