

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Submitting an Authorizing Proposition to the)
Voters of Columbia County to Fix and Impose) Resolution 2017-17
a Sales and Use Tax of Three-Tenths of One Percent)
Pursuant to RCW 82.14.450 to be Used Solely for)
the Purpose of Providing Criminal Justice Funds for)
Public Safety)**

WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington 82.14.450 authorizes county legislative authorities to submit a proposition to county voters to fix and impose a sales and use tax of three tenths of one percent to provide funds associated with the maintenance and operations of criminal justice programs; and

WHEREAS, the expenditure of the county’s and cities’ limited resources in the law and justice system has had a negative impact on other services that the county and cities are statutorily required to provide to their citizens; and

WHEREAS, neither the county nor the cities have any other viable means of increasing revenue to adequately meet minimal criminal justice needs of the citizens in their respective jurisdictions, other than attempting to obtain approval from the voters of a maintenance and operation levy on real property; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the funds to achieve the foregoing, it is deemed necessary and advisable that authority be obtained from the voters of the county to fix and impose a sales and use tax within the county, in accordance with the terms of RCW 82.14.450, and;

WHEREAS, a sales and use tax is more equitable than a tax on property, as this is collected from citizens and visitors to the county alike and is not limited to property owners only; and

WHEREAS, revenue derived from the proceeds of the tax, if imposed, shall be used for criminal justice purposes, further defined as additional law enforcement protection, mitigation of congested court systems, and/or relief of overcrowded jails or other local correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, funds received from the imposition of this tax shall be shared between the county and the cities as follows: Sixty percent shall be retained by the county and forty percent shall be distributed on a per capita basis to cities in the county; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated a sales and use tax would supplement current revenues to adequately meet the law and justice needs of the county and the cities, without further impact to other services; now therefore

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by this Board of Columbia County Commissioners of that they do hereby urge the voters of Columbia County to consider approving the proposition on the November 4, 2003 ballot authorizing a three tenths of one percent sales and use tax to be used for criminal justice purposes, to replace lost state revenue and retain and employ law enforcement officers and law and justice employees, and replace, repair, and maintain law and justice vehicles and equipment in Columbia County and the cities of Dayton and Starbuck.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, State of Washington, on this 1st day of August, 2017.

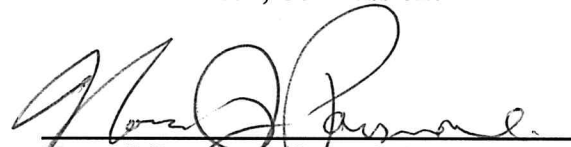
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
COLUMBIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Michael A. Talbott, Chairman



Merle D. Jackson, Commissioner



Norm J. Passmore, Commissioner

Attest:



Leanne Peters, Clerk of the Board