

**WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY  
RESOLUTION NO. 14-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE AUTHORITY ON AUGUST 5, 2014, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF A GENERAL TAX ON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY IN EXCESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY LIMITATIONS IN THE SUM OF \$ 570,000 WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY \$ 0.35 PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUATION (BASED ON AN ASSESSMENT RATIO OF 100% OF TRUE AND FAIR MARKET VALUE), TO BE COLLECTED IN 2015, TO PROVIDE FUNDS REQUIRED BY THE REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES DURING 2015 AND 2016, TO AVOID A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYEES, AND FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION EXPENDITURES ESSENTIAL FOR BASIC FIRE AND LIFE PROTECTION NEEDS.

WHEREAS: It is the judgment of the Board of WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health, life and property of the residents of the Authority that the fire and emergency medical services enumerated in this resolution be provided by the Authority. Such services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations and equipment in excess of those which can be provided by the Authority's regular tax levy for collection in 2015, such excess being not less than \$ 570,000 ;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Authority does not obtain sufficient revenue from its regular property tax levy to provide fire and emergency medical services at the level that it currently provides. The purpose of this special levy would be to provide sufficient funds to maintain the level of services during 2015 and 2016. The funds obtained through the excess levy will be used to pay regular maintenance and operation costs and to maintain the current level of emergency services.

SECTION 2. In order to produce the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate fire protection and emergency medical services as described in Section 1 of this resolution and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY shall levy in 2014, and collect in 2015, a general tax on taxable property within the Authority, in excess of the Authority's regular levy, for maintenance and operation costs in the amount of \$570,000.

SECTION 3. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, for their ratification or rejection, at a special election on August 5, 2014, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not such levy for maintenance and operations, in excess of the constitutional and statutory limits, shall be made. The Board hereby asks the Auditor of Thurston County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, to call such special election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION 1

WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY  
Levy of General Tax

\$570,000 for Maintenance and Operation

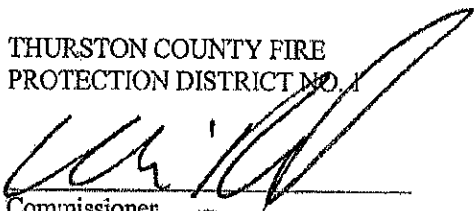
Shall the WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY levy a tax upon its taxable property, in excess of state limitations upon regular levies, of approximately \$ 0.35 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation, to provide \$ 570,000 to be levied in 2014, collected in 2015, and used for maintenance and operations in 2015 and 2016, to maintain the current level of fire services and emergency medical services as provided in Resolution No. 14-01.

Tax Levy:            Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
                              No        \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted by the Board of WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, Thurston County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on the 5th day of May 2014, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

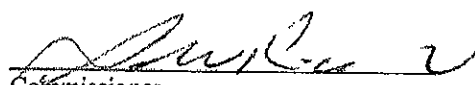
WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

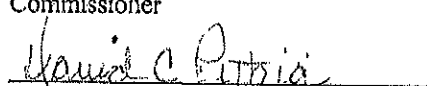
THURSTON COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 11

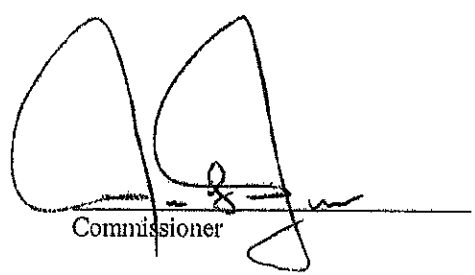
  
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Commissioner

  
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Commissioner

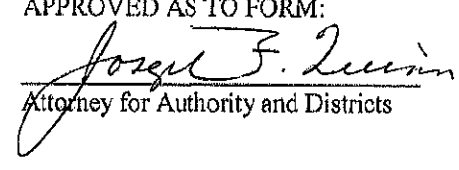
  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
District Secretary

  
Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Attorney for Authority and Districts

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Election Date: August 5, 2014

Name of Jurisdiction  
Submitting Measure: West Thurston Regional Fire Authority

Contact Name: Fire Chief Russ Kaleiwahea

Contact Phone Number: (360) 352-1614

This proposition will authorize West Thurston Regional Fire Authority (aka Rochester-Grand Mound & Littlerock Fire Departments) to collect \$570,000 in 2015, at an approximate rate of \$0.35 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to allow voters the opportunity to maintain current firefighter-EMT staffing levels to provide emergency medical, rescue and fire department services, without further reduction in service levels.

The Authority has lost over \$1.9 million in revenue since 2009, due to the nationwide recession, necessitating cutbacks in expenditures and in firefighter-EMT positions left vacant due to attrition. In 2012 the Authority was awarded a federal grant to fund four (4) necessary firefighter-EMT positions. The federal grant will end February 2015 and without necessary revenue, the four positions will be eliminated. Proposition approval will fund these four positions for 2 years. Approval of this proposition would maintain the current level of services and will cost approximately \$35 dollars per \$100,000 property valuation. Rejection would likely lead to further reductions in service levels and increased response times.

Explanatory Statement Prepared By: Joseph F. Quinn