

## CHAPTER 128.

[H. B. 236.]

RATIFICATION OF ILLEGAL INDEBTEDNESS IN COUNTIES,  
CITIES AND TOWNS OTHER THAN FIRST CLASS.

AN ACT relating to the validation of certain warrants and other obligations and evidence[s] of indebtedness on the part of counties, cities and towns other than the first class, issued by the corporate authorities thereof in excess of their legal authority and declaring an emergency.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. Any county, city or town in this state other than any county or city of the first class may ratify in the manner prescribed by this act, the attempted incurring of any indebtedness of such county, city or town, by the issuing of warrants, making of contracts, or creations of other evidences of indebtedness on the part of such county, city or town, by the corporate authorities thereof at any time prior to the passage of this act, when the only ground of the invalidity of such indebtedness so to be ratified is that, at the time of such attempted incurring thereof, the same, together with all other than existing indebtedness of such county, city or town, exceeding one and one-half per centum of the taxable property in such county, city or town, ascertained by the last assessment for state and county purposes previous to the attempted incurring of such indebtedness, except that in incorporated cities the assessment shall be taken from the last assessment for city purposes, and that such indebtedness was so attempted to be incurred without the assent of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election held for that purpose.

SEC. 2. Whenever the corporate authorities of any such county, city or town shall deem it advisable that the ratification authorized by this act shall be obtained, they shall provide therefor by ordinance or resolution, which shall specify separately the amount of each distinct class of such indebtedness so to be ratified, the date or period

Authority  
to ratify  
invalid in-  
debtedness.

Ordinance  
calling  
ratification  
election.

of the attempted incurring by the corporate authorities of each separate class thereof, and the general nature of the indebtedness composed in each distinct class and shall provide for the holding of an election for that purpose, at which the attempted incurring of such indebtedness shall be submitted to the voters of such county, city or town for ratification or approval, of which election notice, to be provided for in such ordinance or resolution, shall be given by publishing the same in a newspaper published in such county, city or town once a week for at least four successive weeks, and if no newspaper is published in such city or town, then by publishing such notice for the same period in a newspaper published in the county wherein such city or town is situate and of general circulation therein. Each distinct class of such indebtedness so specified shall be the subject of a distinct vote in favor of or against the ratification thereof, and such vote shall designate the class of indebtedness referred to by the description thereof used and the amount specified in the ordinance or resolution.

Publication  
of notice.

Separate  
vote on dis-  
tinct classes  
of indebted-  
ness.

SEC. 3. If at an election held as provided for in section two of this act, three-fifths of the voters of such county, city or town, voting at such election, shall vote in favor of the ratification of any distinct class of such indebtedness, specified in the ordinance or resolution providing for such election, then such indebtedness shall thereby become and is hereby declared to be validated and a binding obligation upon such county, city or town, when the only ground of the previous invalidity of such indebtedness is that at the time of the incurring thereof so ratified, the same, together with all other than existing indebtedness of such county, city or town, exceeding one and one-half per centum of the taxable property of such county, city or town ascertained by the last previous assessment for state and county purposes (except that in incorporated cities the assessment shall be taken from the last assessment for city purposes): *Provided*, That neither anything in this act contained nor the vote cast at any such

Three-fifths  
vote neces-  
sary.

Certain in-  
debtedness  
incapable of  
ratification.

election shall be deemed to validate or authorize any indebtedness, which, together with all other indebtedness of such county, city or town existing at the time of the attempted incurring of the same exceeded any constitutional limitation of indebtedness which might be incurred with the assent of three-fifths of the voters in such county, city or town voting at an election to be held for that purpose: *And provided further*, That this act shall apply only to indebtedness attempted to be incurred prior to the passage hereof.

"Corporate  
authorities"  
defined.

SEC. 4. The words "corporate authorities," used in this act, shall be held to mean the legislative or managing body of any county, city or town.

Emergency.

SEC. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace and safety and the support of the state government, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 6, 1915.

Passed the Senate March 9, 1915.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1915.

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## CHAPTER 129.

[H. B. 198.]

### EMPLOYMENT OF HONORABLY DISCHARGED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

AN ACT relating to the employment of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the United States upon all public works of the State of Washington, and of any county thereof, and amending section 8925 of Remington & Ballinger's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Washington.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. That section 8925 of Rem. & Bal. Code be amended to read as follows:

Section 8925. In every public department, and upon all public works of the State of Washington, and of any county thereof, honorably discharged Union soldiers and sailors and honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of

Amends  
Rem.-Bal.  
§ 8925, by  
including  
Spanish War  
Veterans.

Preference  
guaranteed.