

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF CALLING FOR AN)
ELECTION WITHIN SPOKANE COUNTY TO)
BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019,)
AND SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS A)
PROPOSITION TO *RENEW* THE IMPOSITION)
OF A SALES AND USE TAX EQUAL TO ONE-)
TENTH OF ONE PERCENT THROUGHOUT)
SPOKANE COUNTY, AS AUTHORIZED BY)
RCW 82.14.450, THE PROCEEDS TO BE USED)
BY THE COUNTY, CITIES AND TOWNS)
WITHIN SPOKANE COUNTY FOR CRIMINAL)
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.32.120(6), the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington, (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the “Board”) has the care of County property and the management of County funds and business; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 82.14.450, a county legislative authority may submit an authorizing proposition to county voters at a primary or general election, and if the proposition is approved by a majority of persons voting, fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of chapter 82.14 RCW, in an amount equal to one-tenth of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax. Money received under this tax shall be shared between the county and the cities as follows: Sixty (60) percent shall be retained by the County and forty (40) percent shall be distributed on a per capita basis to cities in the county. The terminology “Cities” also includes “Towns”. One-third of all money received under this tax shall be used solely for criminal justice purposes, fire protection purpose, or both. For the purposes of this tax the terminology “criminal justice purposes” shall have the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.14.340, and include, but not be limited to, additional police protection, mitigation of congested court systems, or relief of overcrowded jails or other local correctional facilities. The remaining portion of the monies received from the tax shall be used for such purposes as are set in the ballot proposition. The retail sale or use of motor vehicles, and the lease of motor vehicles for up to the first thirty-six months of the lease, are exempt from the tax imposed under RCW 82.14.450; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above-cited statutory provisions, the Board submitted a ballot proposition to the voters of Spokane County at the primary election held September 14, 2004, on whether or not the Board should fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of chapter 82.14 RCW, *commencing January 1, 2005 and running until December 31, 2009*, in an amount equal to one-tenth of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax, the moneys received from such tax to be used by the County, Cities and Towns within Spokane County for Criminal Justice and Public Safety purposes. The electorate approved the Board’s imposition of the sales and use tax by a vote of **51.71% yes** (49,600) and **48.29% no** (46,327). Subsequent thereto, as authorized by the voters, the Board adopted an ordinance under Resolution No. 09-0885 fixing and imposing a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of chapter 82.14 RCW and RCW 82.14.450; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above-cited statutory provisions, the Board submitted a ballot proposition to the voters of Spokane County at the primary election held August 18, 2009, on whether or not the Board should fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of chapter 82.14 RCW, *commencing January 1, 2010 and running until March 31, 2020*, in an amount equal to one-tenth of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax, the moneys received from such tax to be used by the County, Cities and Towns within Spokane County for Criminal Justice and Public Safety purposes. The electorate approved the Board's imposition of the sales and use tax by a vote of **61.69% yes** (51,493) and **38.31% no** (31,948). Subsequent thereto, as authorized by the voters, the Board adopted an ordinance under Resolution No. 09-0885 fixing and imposing a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of chapter 82.14 RCW and RCW 82.14.450; and

WHEREAS, Spokane County and other cities/towns within Spokane County continue to need additional financial means to address police (sheriff) protection, mitigate congested court systems, relieve overcrowding jails and other correctional facilities, as well as address public safety issues/concerns. Spokane County and cities/towns within Spokane County do not have any other viable means or have limited means of increasing revenue to meet these responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 29A.04.330, a resolution calling for an election at the primary election date must be presented to the county auditor no later than the Friday immediately before the first day of regular candidate filing. May 10, 2019, is the last day to submit a ballot proposition to the county auditor for the primary election to be held on August 6, 2019. The Board desires to present to the county auditor a resolution calling for an election on the *renewal* of the imposition of the one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax as authorized under RCW 82.14.450 for specific enumerated purposes on the primary election to be held on August 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary for the public welfare and in the best interests of the citizens of Spokane County to ensure that adequate financial resources are available for criminal justice and public safety purposes. In order to achieve this purpose and in light of the provisions of RCW 29A.04.330, it is deemed necessary that the Board place before the electorate of Spokane County the *renewal* of the imposition of the one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax as authorized under RCW 82.14.450 for specific enumerated purposes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above-cited statutory provisions, the Board is desirous of submitting a ballot proposition to the voters of Spokane County at the primary election to be held on August 6, 2019, on whether or not the Board should renew the sales and use tax authorized under terms of RCW 82.14.450, commencing April 1, 2020 and running until December 31, 2029, in an amount equal to one-tenth of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax, money received under this tax to be shared between the county and the cities as follows: Sixty (60) percent shall be retained by the County and forty (40) percent shall be distributed on a per capita basis to cities in the county. One-third of all money received under this tax shall be used solely for criminal justice purposes. For the purposes of this tax the terminology "criminal justice purposes" shall have the same meaning as provided in RCW 82.14.340, and include but not be limited to, additional police protection, mitigation of congested court systems, or relief of overcrowded jails or other local correctional facilities. The remaining portion of the tax shall be used for public safety purposes. The retail sale or use of motor vehicles, and the lease of motor vehicles for up to the first thirty-six months of the lease, would be exempt from the tax imposed under RCW 82.14.450; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington, pursuant to RCW 82.14.450, that the Board does hereby request a ballot proposition more particularly set forth in Attachment "A", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference,

be submitted to the qualified electorate of Spokane County at the primary election to be held August 6, 2019, and that the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County be and is accordingly instructed to notify the Spokane County Auditor, Supervisor of Elections, of such fact, and to request said Auditor and Supervisor to call and conduct said Election in the manner provided by law, and to submit that ballot proposition as set forth in Attachment "A" hereto in the form of a ballot title substantially as set forth in said Attachment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of May, 2019.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON



ATTEST:

Mary L. Kuney
MARY L. KUNEY, Chair

Al French
AL FRENCH, Vice-Chair

Ginna Vasquez
Ginna Vasquez, Clerk of the Board

Josh Kerns
JOSH KERNS, Commissioner

ATTACHMENT "A"

MEASURE NO. ____

SPOKANE COUNTY

**RENEWAL OF SPOKANE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX**

STATE LAW AUTHORIZES VOTERS TO APPROVE THE IMPOSITION OF A ONE-TENTH OF ONE PERCENT COUNTY-WIDE SALES AND USE TAX, THE PROCEEDS TO BE USED BY SPOKANE COUNTY AND THE CITIES AND TOWNS THEREIN EXCLUSIVELY FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES.

SHOULD THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SPOKANE COUNTY, AS AUTHORIZED BY RCW 82.14.450, RENEW THE IMPOSITION OF A ONE-TENTH OF ONE PERCENT COUNTY-WIDE SALES AND USE TAX, COMMENCING APRIL 1, 2020 AND TERMINATING DECEMBER 31, 2019, THE PROCEEDS TO BE USED BY SPOKANE COUNTY AND THE CITIES AND TOWNS THEREIN EXCLUSIVELY FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES?

YES..... []
NO.....[]