

GREG NICKELS
JANE HAGUE
LOUISE MILLER

1 January 6, 1997

Introduced by: ROB MCKENNA

2 Proposed No.: 97-008

3 ORDINANCE NO. **12615**

4 AN ORDINANCE levying an admissions tax on stadium
5 events pursuant to RCW 36.38.010.
6

7 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

8 SECTION 1. Findings.

9 A. Under Chapter 1, Laws of 1995, 3rd Sp. Sess. (the "Act"), the Washington State
10 Legislature established a comprehensive mechanism to construct, own, manage and finance a major
11 league baseball stadium which enabled the county to create a major league baseball stadium public
12 facilities district and to issue bonds to provide part of the cost of building a major league baseball
13 stadium, payable from an array of state and local tax and other sources specified in that statute.
14 Under the Act, the long term imposition of those taxes and other revenue sources was made
15 dependent on certain requirements specified therein.

16 B. By Ordinance No. 12000, the county, among other things, implemented the state's
17 comprehensive mechanism to provide a major league baseball stadium by (1) creating the
18 Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities District (the "PFD") and
19 (2) imposing a sales and use tax, a restaurant, bar and tavern food and drink sales and use tax and a
20 car rental sales and use tax, all consistent with the Act, to provide funds with which to proceed with
21 the development of a major league baseball stadium (as the term "baseball stadium" is defined in
22 RCW 82.14.0485(5)) in King County subject to certain conditions.

23 C. The Act specifically provided that the county would have no obligation to issue
24 bonds in an amount greater than that which would be supported by the tax revenues authorized and
25 made available by the Act. In Section 5 of Ordinance No. 12000, the county expressly provided

26 that it would issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of funding the construction of the
27 baseball stadium unless the county council were to determine that such a bond issue would likely
28 result in (i) the county's current expense fund having to pay any portion of the baseball stadium
29 debt service, or (ii) a reduction of the county's bond rating.

30 D. By Ordinance No. 12593, the county found that the finance policy in Section 5 of
31 Ordinance 12000 has been met and has authorized \$336,000,000 principal amount of bonds for
32 stadium and related parking facilities construction.

33 SECTION 2. Levy of Taxes. There is hereby imposed, pursuant to RCW 36.38.010, and
34 specifically RCW 36.38.010(a) , a tax of not more than one cent on twenty cents or fraction thereof
35 to be paid by persons who pay an admissions charge to stadiums constructed after January 1, 1995
36 and owned by the PFD, including a tax on persons who are admitted free of charge or at reduced
37 rates to any place for which other persons pay a charge or a regular higher charge for the same or
38 similar privileges or accommodations. Anyone who receives any admission charge to any place
39 shall collect and remit the tax to the treasury division of the county. The term "admissions charge"
40 shall mean that term as defined in RCW 36.38.010(2). Amounts collected by the county from such
41 tax shall be used for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds and notes as
42 may be issued for the purpose of providing all or part of the money with which to pay the cost of
43 acquiring, designing, owning and equipping public parking facilities associated with the baseball
44 stadium, including design and other preconstruction costs and costs of issuance and sale of such
45 bonds and notes. Such taxes are pledged exclusively to the payment of such bonds and notes so

46 long as any bonds issued with respect to the baseball stadium remain outstanding, and thereafter
47 may be used for such other purposes as are permitted by RCW 36.38.010.

48 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 6th day of
49 January, 1997.

50 PASSED by a vote of 8 to 4 this 21st day of January, 1997.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

John Hogue
Chair

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52 ATTEST:
Gerald L. Peterson
53 Clerk of the Council
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55 APPROVED this 31 day of January, 1997.
Gerald L. Peterson
56 King County Executive
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