

Chronology of Initiative 601 Amendments

1993:

- Initiative 601 enacted by the voters.

1995:

- Initiative 601 takes effect.

1997:

- Assessments imposed by agricultural commodity commissions are exempted from I-601's limitation on administrative fee increases. (SB 5514)

1998:

- Referendum 49 amends Initiative 601 to allow a diversion of Motor Vehicle Excise Tax revenues without lowering the state expenditure limit, authorizes the MVET distributions to be used to reimburse local governments for state mandates, and "reenacted and reaffirmed" Initiative 601.

1999:

- State Investment Board is given investment authority over the Emergency Reserve Fund. (SB 6063)
- Initiative 695 expands I-601 to require voter approval of increased state and local taxes, fees, and charges. (The initiative was subsequently held unconstitutional by the state Supreme Court.)

2000:

- \$35 million from interest earnings in the Emergency Reserve Fund are transferred annually to the Transportation Multimodal Account. (SB 6876)
- The maximum level of the Emergency Reserve Fund is changed from 5 percent of biennial revenues to 5 percent of annual revenues. (HB 3169)
- The State Treasurer is authorized to reconcile deposits to the reserve funds to reconcile actual revenue levels with previously forecasted levels. (HB 3169)
- The state spending limit is adjusted upward for program costs or moneys that are transferred into the state General Fund. (HB 3169)
- New local taxes that are credited against state revenues will result in a downward adjustment in the state expenditure limit. (HB 3169)
- The State Expenditure Limit Committee is established (HB 3169).
- 75 percent of excess revenue from the Emergency Reserve Fund is transferred to the Student Achievement Fund; the remainder flows to the General Fund. (Initiative 728)
- The diversion of state lottery proceeds and state property tax revenues to the Student Achievement Fund does not lower the state expenditure limit. (Initiative 728)

2002:

- Temporarily allows the Legislature to raise state revenues and transfer funds from the Emergency Reserve Fund with a majority vote for the duration of the 2001-03 biennium (SB 6819)