# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

## **Local Government Committee**

## **HB 2961**

**Brief Description:** Authorizing the establishment of utility local improvement districts for underground facilities that transmit or distribute electricity or communications.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Nelson, Simpson and Hasegawa.

#### **Brief Summary of Bill**

Authorizes cities and towns to create a utility local improvement district for the purpose
of building underground facilities for the transmission or distribution of electricity or
communications.

**Hearing Date:** 1/31/08

Staff: Thamas Osborn (786-7129).

### **Background:**

Cities and towns are authorized to create a utility local improvement district for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, or purchasing all or a portion of the following types of utilities:

- water systems;
- systems for sewerage and storm or surface water disposal; and
- off-street parking facilities.

A utility local improvement district may be created either through a resolution passed by the governing body of the city or town, or by the petition of property owners within the proposed district. Both the resolution and petition methods of creating the district are subject to procedures and requirements specified by statute, including requirements pertaining to public notice and hearings.

The costs of creating a utility local improvement district may be paid, in whole or in part, through taxes assessed against property that is specially benefitted by the improvements in the district. The city or town may issue and sell revenue bonds in order to finance projects within the district.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Cities and towns are authorized to create a utility local improvement district for the purpose of building underground facilities for the transmission or distribution of electricity or communications.

Appropriation: None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.