SENATE BILL 6171

State of Washington	60th	Legislatu	re	2007	Regula	ar Session
By Senator McCaslin						
Read first time 04/03/200 Operations & Elections.	7.	Referred	to	Committee	on (Government

1 AN ACT Relating to manufactured housing community development in 2 rural areas; amending RCW 36.70A.030 and 36.70A.070; and creating a new 3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. Manufactured homes in manufactured housing б communities have long offered many citizens of the state of Washington, 7 including senior citizens, with their only means of affordable housing. 8 Rising real property values and increasing property taxes, along with 9 development and redevelopment within urban growth areas, have led to a 10 decreasing number of manufactured housing communities in urban growth areas. A number of manufactured housing communities have had to close 11 Such closures have occurred without a corresponding 12 in recent years. 13 number of openings of new manufactured housing communities. It is the 14 intent of the legislature to offset the negative impact that growth 15 management has had manufactured housing communities and upon 16 manufactured home owners over the age of fifty-five by ensuring that 17 comprehensive growth plans allow for manufactured housing communities 18 within limited areas of more intense rural development.

1 Sec. 2. RCW 36.70A.030 and 2005 c 423 s 2 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

3 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 4 this section apply throughout this chapter.

5 (1) "Adopt a comprehensive land use plan" means to enact a new 6 comprehensive land use plan or to update an existing comprehensive land 7 use plan.

(2) "Agricultural land" means land primarily devoted to the 8 commercial production of horticultural, viticultural, floricultural, 9 dairy, apiary, vegetable, or animal products or of berries, grain, hay, 10 straw, turf, seed, ((Christmas trees not subject to the excise tax 11 imposed by RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140,)) finfish in upland 12 13 hatcheries, or livestock, and that has long-term commercial 14 significance for agricultural production.

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(3) "City" means any city or town, including a code city.

16 (4) "Comprehensive land use plan," "comprehensive plan," or "plan" 17 means a generalized coordinated land use policy statement of the 18 governing body of a county or city that is adopted pursuant to this 19 chapter.

(5) "Critical areas" include the following areas and ecosystems:
(a) Wetlands; (b) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers
used for potable water; (c) fish and wildlife habitat conservation
areas; (d) frequently flooded areas; and (e) geologically hazardous
areas.

25 (6) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and 26 economic development.

27 (7) "Development regulations" or "regulation" means the controls placed on development or land use activities by a county or city, 28 including, but not limited to, zoning ordinances, critical areas 29 ordinances, shoreline master programs, official controls, planned unit 30 31 development ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and binding site plan 32 ordinances together with any amendments thereto. A development regulation does not include a decision to approve a project permit 33 application, as defined in RCW 36.70B.020, even though the decision may 34 be expressed in a resolution or ordinance of the legislative body of 35 36 the county or city.

(8) "Forest land" means land primarily devoted to growing trees forlong-term commercial timber production on land that can be economically

and practically managed for such production((, including Christmas 1 2 trees subject to the excise tax imposed under RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140,)) and that has long-term commercial significance. 3 In determining whether forest land is primarily devoted to growing trees 4 for long-term commercial timber production on land that can be 5 economically and practically managed for such production, the following 6 7 factors shall be considered: (a) The proximity of the land to urban, suburban, and rural settlements; (b) surrounding parcel size and the 8 compatibility and intensity of adjacent and nearby land uses; (c) long-9 10 term local economic conditions that affect the ability to manage for timber production; and (d) the availability of public facilities and 11 12 services conducive to conversion of forest land to other uses.

(9) "Geologically hazardous areas" means areas that because of their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events, are not suited to the siting of commercial, residential, or industrial development consistent with public health or safety concerns.

18 (10) "Long-term commercial significance" includes the growing 19 capacity, productivity, and soil composition of the land for long-term 20 commercial production, in consideration with the land's proximity to 21 population areas, and the possibility of more intense uses of the land.

(11) <u>"Manufactured home" has the same meaning as in RCW 59.20.030.</u> (12) <u>"Manufactured housing community" means any real property that</u> is rented or held out for rent to others for the placement of two or more manufactured homes for the primary purpose of production of income, except where the real property is rented or held out for rent for seasonal recreational purpose only and is not intended for yearround occupancy.

29 <u>(13)</u> "Minerals" include gravel, sand, and valuable metallic 30 substances.

31 (((12))) <u>(14)</u> "Public facilities" include streets, roads, highways, 32 sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic 33 water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational 34 facilities, and schools.

35 (((13))) <u>(15)</u> "Public services" include fire protection and 36 suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, 37 environmental protection, and other governmental services.

1 (((14))) (16) "Recreational land" means land ((so designated under 2 RCW 36.70A.1701 and that, immediately prior to this designation, was)) 3 designated as agricultural land of long-term commercial significance 4 under RCW 36.70A.170. Recreational land must have playing fields and 5 supporting facilities existing before July 1, 2004, for sports played 6 on grass playing fields.

7 (((15))) (17) "Rural character" refers to the patterns of land use 8 and development established by a county in the rural element of its 9 comprehensive plan:

10 (a) In which open space, the natural landscape, and vegetation 11 predominate over the built environment;

(b) That foster traditional rural lifestyles, rural-basedeconomies, and opportunities to both live and work in rural areas;

14 (c) That provide visual landscapes that are traditionally found in 15 rural areas and communities;

16 (d) That are compatible with the use of the land by wildlife and 17 for fish and wildlife habitat;

(e) That reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped landinto sprawling, low-density development;

20 (f) That generally do not require the extension of urban 21 governmental services; and

(g) That are consistent with the protection of natural surface water flows and ground water and surface water recharge and discharge areas.

25 ((((16))) (18) "Rural development" refers to development outside the urban growth area and outside agricultural, forest, and mineral 26 27 resource lands designated pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. Rural development can consist of a variety of uses and residential densities, 28 including clustered residential development, at levels 29 that are consistent with the preservation of 30 rural character and the 31 requirements of the rural element. Rural development does not refer to 32 agriculture or forestry activities that may be conducted in rural 33 areas.

34 (((17))) (19) "Rural governmental services" or "rural services" 35 include those public services and public facilities historically and 36 typically delivered at an intensity usually found in rural areas, and 37 may include domestic water systems, fire and police protection 38 services, transportation and public transit services, and other public

1 utilities associated with rural development and normally not associated 2 with urban areas. Rural services do not include storm or sanitary 3 sewers, except as otherwise authorized by RCW 36.70A.110(4).

(((18))) (20) "Urban growth" refers to growth that makes intensive 4 5 use of land for the location of buildings, structures, and impermeable surfaces to such a degree as to be incompatible with the primary use of 6 7 land for the production of food, other agricultural products, or fiber, or the extraction of mineral resources, rural uses, rural development, 8 and natural resource lands designated pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. 9 Α 10 pattern of more intensive rural development, as provided in RCW 36.70A.070(5)(d), is not urban growth. When allowed to spread over 11 12 wide areas, urban growth typically requires urban governmental 13 services. "Characterized by urban growth" refers to land having urban 14 growth located on it, or to land located in relationship to an area with urban growth on it as to be appropriate for urban growth. 15

16 (((19))) (21) "Urban growth areas" means those areas designated by 17 a county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.110.

18 (((20))) <u>(22)</u> "Urban governmental services" or "urban services" 19 include those public services and public facilities at an intensity 20 historically and typically provided in cities, specifically including 21 storm and sanitary sewer systems, domestic water systems, street 22 cleaning services, fire and police protection services, public transit 23 services, and other public utilities associated with urban areas and 24 normally not associated with rural areas.

25 (((21))) (23) "Wetland" or "wetlands" means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency 26 27 and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in 28 saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, 29 bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial 30 wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but 31 32 not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm 33 ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 34 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction 35 of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial 36 37 wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas created to 38 mitigate conversion of wetlands.

1 Sec. 3. RCW 36.70A.070 and 2005 c 360 s 2 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

The comprehensive plan of a county or city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall consist of a map or maps, and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent with the future land use map. A comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended with public participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140.

Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for each of the following:

12 (1)land use element designating the proposed general Α 13 distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where 14 appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, open spaces, general aviation airports, public 15 utilities, public facilities, and other land uses. The land use 16 17 element shall include population densities, building intensities, and estimates of future population growth. The land use element shall 18 provide for protection of the quality and quantity of ground water used 19 20 for public water supplies. Wherever possible, the land use element 21 should consider utilizing urban planning approaches that promote 22 physical activity. Where applicable, the land use element shall review drainage, flooding, and storm water run-off in the area and nearby 23 24 jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate 25 or cleanse those discharges that pollute waters of the state, including Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound. 26

27 (2) A housing element ensuring the vitality and character of established residential neighborhoods that: (a) Includes an inventory 28 and analysis of existing and projected housing needs that identifies 29 the number of housing units necessary to manage projected growth; (b) 30 31 includes a statement of goals, policies, objectives, and mandatory 32 provisions for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing, including single-family residences; (c) identifies sufficient 33 land for housing, including, but not limited to, government-assisted 34 housing, housing for low-income families, manufactured housing, 35 multifamily housing, and group homes and foster care facilities; and 36 37 (d) makes adequate provisions for existing and projected needs of all 38 economic segments of the community.

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(3) A capital facilities plan element consisting of: (a) An 1 2 inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities; (b) a 3 forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities; (c) the 4 5 proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities; (d) at least a six-year plan that will finance such capital 6 7 facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and (e) a requirement to 8 reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of 9 10 meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital 11 facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent. Park and 12 13 recreation facilities shall be included in the capital facilities plan 14 element.

15 (4) A utilities element consisting of the general location, 16 proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities, 17 including, but not limited to, electrical lines, telecommunication 18 lines, and natural gas lines.

19 (5) Rural element. Counties shall include a rural element 20 including lands that are not designated for urban growth, agriculture, 21 forest, or mineral resources. The following provisions shall apply to 22 the rural element:

(a) Growth management act goals and local circumstances. Because
circumstances vary from county to county, in establishing patterns of
rural densities and uses, a county may consider local circumstances,
but shall develop a written record explaining how the rural element
harmonizes the planning goals in RCW 36.70A.020 and meets the
requirements of this chapter.

(b) Rural development. The rural element shall permit rural 29 development, forestry, and agriculture in rural areas. 30 The rural element shall provide for a variety of rural densities, uses, essential 31 32 public facilities, and rural governmental services needed to serve the permitted densities and uses. To achieve a variety of rural densities 33 and uses, counties may provide for clustering, density transfer, design 34 guidelines, conservation easements, and other innovative techniques 35 that will accommodate appropriate rural densities and uses that are not 36 37 characterized by urban growth and that are consistent with rural 38 character.

(c) Measures governing rural development. The rural element shall
 include measures that apply to rural development and protect the rural
 character of the area, as established by the county, by:

(i) Containing or otherwise controlling rural development;

5 (ii) Assuring visual compatibility of rural development with the 6 surrounding rural area;

7 (iii) Reducing the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land
8 into sprawling, low-density development in the rural area;

9 (iv) Protecting critical areas, as provided in RCW 36.70A.060, and 10 surface water and ground water resources; and

(v) Protecting against conflicts with the use of agricultural,
 forest, and mineral resource lands designated under RCW 36.70A.170.

(d) Limited areas of more intensive rural development. Subject to the requirements of this subsection and except as otherwise specifically provided in this subsection (5)(d), the rural element may allow for limited areas of more intensive rural development, including necessary public facilities and public services to serve the limited area as follows:

(i) Rural development consisting of the infill, development, or
 redevelopment of existing commercial, industrial, residential, or
 mixed-use areas, whether characterized as shoreline development,
 villages, hamlets, rural activity centers, or crossroads developments.

(A) A commercial, industrial, residential, shoreline, or mixed-use area shall be subject to the requirements of (d)(((iv))) (v) of this subsection, but shall not be subject to the requirements of (c)(ii) and (iii) of this subsection.

(B) Any development or redevelopment other than an industrial area
or an industrial use within a mixed-use area or an industrial area
under this subsection (5)(d)(i) must be principally designed to serve
the existing and projected rural population.

(C) Any development or redevelopment in terms of building size, scale, use, or intensity shall be consistent with the character of the existing areas. Development and redevelopment may include changes in use from vacant land or a previously existing use so long as the new use conforms to the requirements of this subsection (5);

36 (ii) <u>Rural development of residential or mixed-use areas for</u> 37 <u>manufactured housing communities for persons over the age of fifty-</u> 38 <u>five.</u>

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(A) Any infill, development, or redevelopment under this subsection
(5)(d)(ii) is subject to the requirements of (d)(v) of this subsection,
but is not subject to the requirements of (c)(ii) and (iii) of this
subsection.

5 (B) Any development or redevelopment under this subsection 6 (5)(d)(ii) must be principally designed to serve the existing and 7 projected rural population, considering any and all decreases in 8 manufactured housing availability in urban growth areas;

(iii) The intensification of development on lots containing, or new 9 10 development of, small-scale recreational or tourist uses, including commercial facilities to serve those recreational or tourist uses, that 11 12 rely on a rural location and setting, but that do not include new 13 residential development. A small-scale recreation or tourist use is 14 not required to be principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population. Public services and public facilities 15 16 shall be limited to those necessary to serve the recreation or tourist 17 use and shall be provided in a manner that does not permit low-density 18 sprawl;

The intensification of development 19 (((iii))) (iv) on lots containing isolated nonresidential uses or new development of isolated 20 21 cottage industries and isolated small-scale businesses that are not 22 principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population and nonresidential uses, but do provide job opportunities 23 24 for rural residents. Rural counties may allow the expansion of small-25 scale businesses as long as those small-scale businesses conform with the rural character of the area as defined by the local government 26 27 according to RCW 36.70A.030(((14))) (17). Rural counties may also allow new small-scale businesses to utilize a site previously occupied 28 by an existing business as long as the new small-scale business 29 conforms to the rural character of the area as defined by the local 30 government according to RCW 36.70A.030(((14))) (17). Public services 31 32 and public facilities shall be limited to those necessary to serve the isolated nonresidential use and shall be provided in a manner that does 33 34 not permit low-density sprawl;

35 (((iv))) <u>(v)</u> A county shall adopt measures to minimize and contain 36 the existing areas or uses of more intensive rural development, as 37 appropriate, authorized under this subsection. Lands included in such 38 existing areas or uses shall not extend beyond the logical outer

boundary of the existing area or use, thereby allowing a new pattern of 1 2 low-density sprawl. Existing areas are those that are clearly identifiable and contained and where there is a logical boundary 3 delineated predominately by the built environment, but that may also 4 include undeveloped lands if limited as provided in this subsection. 5 The county shall establish the logical outer boundary of an area of б 7 more intensive rural development. In establishing the logical outer boundary the county shall address (A) the need to preserve the 8 character of existing natural neighborhoods and communities, (B) 9 physical boundaries such as bodies of water, streets and highways, and 10 land forms and contours, (C) the prevention of abnormally irregular 11 12 boundaries, and (D) the ability to provide public facilities and public 13 services in a manner that does not permit low-density sprawl;

14 (((v))) (vi) For purposes of (d) of this subsection, an existing 15 area or existing use is one that was in existence:

(A) On July 1, 1990, in a county that was initially required toplan under all of the provisions of this chapter;

(B) On the date the county adopted a resolution under RCW
36.70A.040(2), in a county that is planning under all of the provisions
of this chapter under RCW 36.70A.040(2); or

(C) On the date the office of financial management certifies the county's population as provided in RCW 36.70A.040(5), in a county that is planning under all of the provisions of this chapter pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040(5).

(e) Exception. This subsection shall not be interpreted to permit in the rural area a major industrial development or a master planned resort unless otherwise specifically permitted under RCW 36.70A.360 and 36.70A.365.

29 (6) A transportation element that implements, and is consistent 30 with, the land use element.

31 (a) The transportation element shall include the following 32 subelements:

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(i) Land use assumptions used in estimating travel;

(ii) Estimated traffic impacts to state-owned transportation facilities resulting from land use assumptions to assist the department of transportation in monitoring the performance of state facilities, to plan improvements for the facilities, and to assess the impact of landuse decisions on state-owned transportation facilities; 1

(iii) Facilities and services needs, including:

2 (A) An inventory of air, water, and ground transportation 3 facilities and services, including transit alignments and general 4 aviation airport facilities, to define existing capital facilities and 5 travel levels as a basis for future planning. This inventory must 6 include state-owned transportation facilities within the city or 7 county's jurisdictional boundaries;

8 (B) Level of service standards for all locally owned arterials and 9 transit routes to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system. 10 These standards should be regionally coordinated;

(C) For state-owned transportation facilities, level of service 11 12 standards for highways, as prescribed in chapters 47.06 and 47.80 RCW, 13 to gauge the performance of the system. The purposes of reflecting 14 level of service standards for state highways in the local comprehensive plan are to monitor the performance of the system, to 15 evaluate improvement strategies, and to facilitate coordination between 16 17 the county's or city's six-year street, road, or transit program and the department of transportation's six-year investment program. 18 The concurrency requirements of (b) of this subsection do not apply to 19 transportation facilities and services of statewide significance except 20 21 for counties consisting of islands whose only connection to the 22 mainland are state highways or ferry routes. In these island counties, state highways and ferry route capacity must be a factor in meeting the 23 24 concurrency requirements in (b) of this subsection;

(D) Specific actions and requirements for bringing into compliance
 locally owned transportation facilities or services that are below an
 established level of service standard;

(E) Forecasts of traffic for at least ten years based on the
 adopted land use plan to provide information on the location, timing,
 and capacity needs of future growth;

31 (F) Identification of state and local system needs to meet current 32 and future demands. Identified needs on state-owned transportation 33 facilities must be consistent with the statewide multimodal 34 transportation plan required under chapter 47.06 RCW;

35 (iv) Finance, including:

36 (A) An analysis of funding capability to judge needs against37 probable funding resources;

(B) A multiyear financing plan based on the needs identified in the 1 2 comprehensive plan, the appropriate parts of which shall serve as the basis for the six-year street, road, or transit program required by RCW 3 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 4 for public transportation systems. The multiyear financing plan should 5 be coordinated with the ((six-year)) ten-year improvement program б 7 developed by the department of transportation as required by RCW 47.05.030; 8

9 (C) If probable funding falls short of meeting identified needs, a 10 discussion of how additional funding will be raised, or how land use 11 assumptions will be reassessed to ensure that level of service 12 standards will be met;

(v) Intergovernmental coordination efforts, including an assessment of the impacts of the transportation plan and land use assumptions on the transportation systems of adjacent jurisdictions;

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(vi) Demand-management strategies;

(vii) Pedestrian and bicycle component to include collaborative efforts to identify and designate planned improvements for pedestrian and bicycle facilities and corridors that address and encourage enhanced community access and promote healthy lifestyles.

21 (b) After adoption of the comprehensive plan by jurisdictions 22 required to plan or who choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, local jurisdictions must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit 23 24 development approval if the development causes the level of service on 25 a locally owned transportation facility to decline below the standards adopted in the transportation element of the comprehensive plan, unless 26 27 transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made concurrent with the development. These strategies 28 may include increased public transportation service, ride sharing 29 management, and other transportation 30 demand programs, systems 31 management strategies. For the purposes of this subsection (6) 32 "concurrent with the development" shall mean that improvements or strategies are in place at the time of development, or that a financial 33 commitment is in place to complete the improvements or strategies 34 35 within six years.

36 (c) The transportation element described in this subsection (6),
 37 ((and)) the six-year plans required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW

36.81.121 for counties, RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation
 systems, and the ten-year plan required by RCW 47.05.030 for the state,
 must be consistent.

(7) An economic development element establishing local goals, 4 policies, objectives, and provisions for economic growth and vitality 5 and a high quality of life. The element shall include: (a) A summary 6 7 of the local economy such as population, employment, payroll, sectors, businesses, sales, and other information as appropriate; (b) a summary 8 of the strengths and weaknesses of the local economy defined as the 9 10 commercial and industrial sectors and supporting factors such as land use, transportation, utilities, education, work force, housing, and 11 12 natural/cultural resources; and (c) an identification of policies, 13 programs, and projects to foster economic growth and development and to 14 address future needs. A city that has chosen to be a residential community is exempt from the economic development element requirement 15 of this subsection. 16

17 (8) A park and recreation element that implements, and is consistent with, the capital facilities plan element as it relates to 18 park and recreation facilities. The element shall include: 19 (a) Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period; 20 21 (b) an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and (c) an 22 evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand. 23

(9) It is the intent that new or amended elements required after January 1, 2002, be adopted concurrent with the scheduled update provided in RCW 36.70A.130. Requirements to incorporate any such new or amended elements shall be null and void until funds sufficient to cover applicable local government costs are appropriated and distributed by the state at least two years before local government must update comprehensive plans as required in RCW 36.70A.130.

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