# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research



## **Local Government Committee**

### **HB** 1013

**Brief Description**: Authorizing regular meetings of county legislative authorities to be held at alternate locations within the county.

**Sponsors**: Representatives Appleton and Seaquist.

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

• Allows the county legislative authority to hold regular meetings at locations outside of the county seat when doing so would be in the interest of supporting greater citizen engagement in local government.

Hearing Date: 1/15/13

Staff: Michaela Murdock (786-7289).

#### Background:

Under current law, the county legislative authority for each county is required to hold regular meetings at the county seat. The county legislative authority is also permitted to hold special meetings at the county seat. Special meetings may take place outside of the county seat at any location within the county, however, if the agenda items for the special meeting are of unique interest to the citizens of the portion of the county in which the special meeting is to be held.

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

An exception is added to the statutory requirement that the county legislative authority of each county hold regular meetings at the county seat to transact any business. Regular meetings may be held at alternate locations outside of the county seat if the legislative county authority determines that changing the location of the meeting would be in the interest of supporting greater citizen engagement in local government.

**Appropriation**: None.

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.

House Bill Analysis - 1 - HB 1013

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

House Bill Analysis - 2 - HB 1013