

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1419

As Passed House:
March 6, 2013

Title: An act relating to the Washington state horse park authority.

Brief Description: Expanding membership of the Washington state horse park authority.

Sponsors: Representatives Warnick and Manweller.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs: 2/7/13, 2/13/13 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 3/6/13, 95-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Expands the Washington State Horse Park board of directors from seven to 11 members.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives McCoy, Chair; Appleton, Vice Chair; Angel, Ranking Minority Member; Johnson, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Haler, Pike, Ryu, Santos and Sawyer.

Staff: Sean Flynn (786-7124).

Background:

The Washington State Horse Park (Horse Park), located in Cle Elum, is a 112-acre site with equestrian facilities to accommodate horse shows and other events. The Horse Park Authority (Authority) is a nonprofit corporation created by statute to develop, promote, operate, manage, and maintain the Horse Park.

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.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) appoints the board of directors for the Authority. The seven-member board is comprised of:

- one member to represent the Commission;
- one member to represent the county where the Horse Park is located; and
- five board members to represent the geographic and discipline diversity in equestrian interests. At least one of these five members must have business experience related to horse show facilities and operation.

Summary of Bill:

The Authority board of directors is expanded from seven to 11 members. Nine members must represent the geographic and discipline diversity in equestrian interests. At least three of those nine members must have business experience related to horse show facilities and operation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) The Horse Park began operation in 2007. This bill passed out of the House Of Representatives unanimously last year. There is a need to increase membership of the board to help manage, promote, and find funding for the Horse Park. There is need to increase the Authority to consolidate and streamline two separate corporate structures, the Authority and a foundation. This will help the board to take on more fundraising functions. The Authority is a nonprofit organization. A larger board will help to accommodate all needs statewide.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Warnick, prime sponsor; and Leslie Thurston, Washington State Horse Park.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.