

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 2297

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**As Reported By House Committee On:**  
Government Administration

**Title:** An act relating to recording documents.

**Brief Description:** Recording documents.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Sehlin and Hankins.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Government Administration: 1/14/98, 1/20/98 [DPS].

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 10 members: Representatives D. Schmidt, Chairman; D. Sommers, Vice Chairman; Scott, Ranking Minority Member; Gardner, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Doumit; Dunn; Dunshee; L. Thomas; Wensman and Wolfe.

**Staff:** Steve Lundin (786-7127).

**Background:** The county auditor is the recorder of deeds and other instruments– that are required to be filed with the county.

Legislation was enacted in 1996 establishing requirements for instruments that are filed with county auditors, including margin requirements and matters that must be included on the first page of the instrument. A cover sheet also must be filed if some, but not all, of these items are not included on the first page of the instrument.

The following matters must be included on the first page of the instrument or cover sheet are: (1) The title or titles of the document; (2) reference numbers of documents assigned or released with reference to the document page number where additional references may be found; (3) the names of the grantors and grantees with reference to the document page number where additional names are included, if applicable; and (4) an abbreviated legal description of the property, if applicable.

The assessor's property tax parcel or account number also must be included on the first page of the document, but no express provision is made for including this number on the cover sheet.

**Summary of Substitute Bill:** The cover sheet for an instrument that is filed with a county auditor may include the assessor's tax parcel or account number.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:** Language was deleted limiting the requirements to instruments relating to real property.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date of Substitute Bill:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** This is a technical correction.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Representative Sehlin, prime sponsor; Bob Terwilliger, Snohomish County Auditor; and Vern Spatz, Grays Harbor County Auditor.