
HOUSE BILL 1517

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives DeBolt, Mulliken, Sump, Mielke, Boldt, Cairnes, Sheahan, Robertson, McMorris, Dunn, Benson, Clements and Smith

Read first time 01/29/97. Referred to Committee on Government Reform & Land Use.

1 AN ACT Relating to counties that choose not to plan under the
2 growth management act; and amending RCW 36.70A.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.040 and 1995 c 400 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Each county that has both a population of fifty thousand or
7 more and, until May 16, 1995, has had its population increase by more
8 than ten percent in the previous ten years or, on or after May 16,
9 1995, has had its population increase by more than seventeen percent in
10 the previous ten years, and the cities located within such county, and
11 any other county regardless of its population that has had its
12 population increase by more than twenty percent in the previous ten
13 years, and the cities located within such county, shall conform with
14 all of the requirements of this chapter. Once a county meets either of
15 these sets of criteria, the requirement to conform with all of the
16 requirements of this chapter remains in effect, even if the county no
17 longer meets one of these sets of criteria. However, the county
18 legislative authority of (~~such a~~) any county with a population of
19 less than (~~fifty~~) one hundred thousand population may adopt a

1 resolution removing the county, and the cities located within the
2 county, from the requirements of adopting comprehensive land use plans
3 and development regulations under this chapter ((if)). This resolution
4 is effective when adopted and filed with the department ((by December
5 31, 1990, for counties initially meeting this set of criteria, or
6 within sixty days of the date the office of financial management
7 certifies that a county meets this set of criteria under subsection (5)
8 of this section.

9 ~~Once a county meets either of these sets of criteria, the~~
10 ~~requirement to conform with all of the requirements of this chapter~~
11 ~~remains in effect, even if the county no longer meets one of these sets~~
12 ~~of criteria)).~~

13 (2) The county legislative authority of any county that does not
14 meet either of the sets of criteria established under subsection (1) of
15 this section may adopt a resolution indicating its intention to have
16 subsection (1) of this section apply to the county. Each city, located
17 in a county that chooses to plan under this subsection, shall conform
18 with all of the requirements of this chapter. Once such a resolution
19 has been adopted, the county and the cities located within the county
20 remain subject to all of the requirements of this chapter.

21 (3) Unless a resolution is adopted under subsection (1) of this
22 section, any county or city that is initially required to conform with
23 all of the requirements of this chapter under subsection (1) of this
24 section shall take actions under this chapter as follows: (a) The
25 county legislative authority shall adopt a county-wide planning policy
26 under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city located within the
27 county shall designate critical areas, agricultural lands, forest
28 lands, and mineral resource lands, and adopt development regulations
29 conserving these designated agricultural lands, forest lands, and
30 mineral resource lands and protecting these designated critical areas,
31 under RCW 36.70A.170 and 36.70A.060; (c) the county shall designate and
32 take other actions related to urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110;
33 (d) if the county has a population of fifty thousand or more, the
34 county and each city located within the county shall adopt a
35 comprehensive plan under this chapter and development regulations that
36 are consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan on or before
37 July 1, 1994, and if the county has a population of less than fifty
38 thousand, the county and each city located within the county shall
39 adopt a comprehensive plan under this chapter and development

1 regulations that are consistent with and implement the comprehensive
2 plan by January 1, 1995, but if the governor makes written findings
3 that a county with a population of less than fifty thousand or a city
4 located within such a county is not making reasonable progress toward
5 adopting a comprehensive plan and development regulations the governor
6 may reduce this deadline for such actions to be taken by no more than
7 one hundred eighty days. Any county or city subject to this subsection
8 may obtain an additional six months before it is required to have
9 adopted its development regulations by submitting a letter notifying
10 the department of community, trade, and economic development of its
11 need prior to the deadline for adopting both a comprehensive plan and
12 development regulations.

13 (4) Any county or city that is required to conform with all the
14 requirements of this chapter, as a result of the county legislative
15 authority adopting its resolution of intention under subsection (2) of
16 this section, shall take actions under this chapter as follows: (a)
17 The county legislative authority shall adopt a county-wide planning
18 policy under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city that is
19 located within the county shall adopt development regulations
20 conserving agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands
21 it designated under RCW 36.70A.060 within one year of the date the
22 county legislative authority adopts its resolution of intention; (c)
23 the county shall designate and take other actions related to urban
24 growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110; and (d) the county and each city
25 that is located within the county shall adopt a comprehensive plan and
26 development regulations that are consistent with and implement the
27 comprehensive plan not later than four years from the date the county
28 legislative authority adopts its resolution of intention, but a county
29 or city may obtain an additional six months before it is required to
30 have adopted its development regulations by submitting a letter
31 notifying the department of community, trade, and economic development
32 of its need prior to the deadline for adopting both a comprehensive
33 plan and development regulations.

34 (5) If the office of financial management certifies that the
35 population of a county that previously had not been required to plan
36 under subsection (1) or (2) of this section has changed sufficiently to
37 meet either of the sets of criteria specified under subsection (1) of
38 this section, and where applicable, the county legislative authority
39 has not adopted a resolution removing the county from these

1 requirements as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the county
2 and each city within such county shall take actions under this chapter
3 as follows: (a) The county legislative authority shall adopt a county-
4 wide planning policy under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city
5 located within the county shall adopt development regulations under RCW
6 36.70A.060 conserving agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral
7 resource lands it designated within one year of the certification by
8 the office of financial management; (c) the county shall designate and
9 take other actions related to urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110;
10 and (d) the county and each city located within the county shall adopt
11 a comprehensive land use plan and development regulations that are
12 consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan within four years
13 of the certification by the office of financial management, but a
14 county or city may obtain an additional six months before it is
15 required to have adopted its development regulations by submitting a
16 letter notifying the department of community, trade, and economic
17 development of its need prior to the deadline for adopting both a
18 comprehensive plan and development regulations.

19 (6) A copy of each document that is required under this section
20 shall be submitted to the department at the time of its adoption.

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