
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2897

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Reams, Grant, Schoesler, Sheahan, Doumit, Pennington, Hatfield, Mulliken, Sherstad, Thompson, Cairnes, Sullivan, Benson, Koster, McMorris, Bush, Dunn, Mielke, Crouse, Chandler and Zellinsky

Read first time 01/21/98. Referred to Committee on House Government Reform & Land Use.

1 AN ACT Relating to categorical exemptions from the state
2 environmental policy act for certain activities; and adding new
3 sections to chapter 43.21C RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21C RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Within urban growth areas designated under RCW 36.70A.110,
8 decisions pertaining to the following activities are exempt from this
9 chapter: (a) Construction of or location of any residential structures
10 of ten or fewer dwelling units; (b) construction of an office, school,
11 commercial, recreational, service, or storage building with eight
12 thousand or fewer square feet of gross floor area, and with associated
13 parking for forty or fewer automobiles; (c) construction of a parking
14 lot designed for forty or fewer automobiles; (d) division of land into
15 nine or fewer lots or parcels; and (e) any landfill or excavation of
16 five hundred cubic yards throughout the total lifetime of the fill or
17 excavation.

18 (2) The legislative authority of a county or city that is planning
19 under RCW 36.70A.040 may raise the exemption levels specified in

1 subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section by ordinance or resolution to
2 the following maximum levels within urban growth areas: (a)
3 Construction of or location of any residential structures of a maximum
4 of twenty or fewer dwelling units; and (b) construction of an office,
5 school, commercial, recreational, service, or storage building with a
6 maximum of twelve thousand or fewer square feet of gross floor area,
7 and with associated parking for forty or fewer automobiles.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21C RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 Decisions pertaining to preparation and adoption of watershed plans
11 addressing water quality developed by counties or conservation
12 districts outside the Puget Sound area are not subject to the
13 requirements of this chapter if the requirements of subsections (1) and
14 (2) of this section are satisfied.

15 (1) The plan must be developed by a watershed management committee
16 and its advisory committees which include representatives from:

17 (a) Cities and counties with territory in the planning area;

18 (b) Federal Indian reservations located in whole or in part within
19 the boundaries of the planning area;

20 (c) Special purpose districts within the boundaries of the planning
21 area;

22 (d) Interest groups representing the major interests in the
23 planning area;

24 (e) Landowners within the planning area; and

25 (f) State and federal agencies with jurisdiction over the subject
26 matter of the components of the watershed plan.

27 (2) Upon completion of the proposed watershed plan, at least one
28 public hearing in the planning area must be held.

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