

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bill Analysis

Bill No. SB 5862

Protecting records of strategic discussions.

Brief title

Hearing Date 3/23/99

Senator Gardner Horn and Patterson.

Sponsor(s)

Staff Steve Lundin

State Government Committee

Phone 786-7127

BACKGROUND:

Each state and local agency required under the Open Public Records Act to make all public records available for public inspection and copying unless records are exempt from disclosure. Among other things, the following records are exempt from public inspection and disclosure: (1) preliminary notes, recommendations, intra-agency opinions, expressions of policy, and less than final agency action; and (3) the contents of real estate appraisals made for the acquisition or sale of property by the state or a local government.

Multi-member boards and commissions required under the Open Public Meetings Act to take actions in open sessions. However, executive sessions may be held on a variety of matters: collective bargaining sessions, planning, strategic sessions associated with collective bargaining, and subject to the open meeting requirement.

SUMMARY:

Records which would reveal the direct or indirect strategy or position that an agency will take during the course of collective bargaining, or sessions, mediation, or proceedings, are exempt from public inspection and copying.

FISCAL NOTE: Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill passed.