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SENATE BILL 6121

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senator Honeyford

Prefiled 01/05/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to the siting of institutions of higher education  
2 and accompanying facilities; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 36.70A 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 36.70A  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) This chapter does not prohibit a county planning under RCW  
8 36.70A.040 from authorizing the extension of public facilities and  
9 utilities to serve a privately operated institution of higher  
10 education that serves fewer than two thousand students sited within  
11 five miles of an urban growth area so long as the following  
12 requirements are met:

13 (a) The applicable board of directors has adopted a policy  
14 addressing the institution's needs;

15 (b) The county and all affected cities agree to the extension of  
16 public facilities and utilities to serve the institution;

17 (c) If the public facility or utility is extended beyond the  
18 urban growth area to serve an institution, the public facility or  
19 utility must serve only the institution and the costs of such  
20 extension must be borne by the institution based on a reasonable

1 nexus to the impacts of the institution except as provided in  
2 subsection (3) of this section; and

3 (d) Any impacts associated with the siting of the institution are  
4 mitigated as required by the state environmental policy act, chapter  
5 43.21C RCW.

6 (2) This chapter does not prohibit either the expansion or  
7 modernization of an existing institution of higher education.

8 (3) Where a public facility or utility has been extended beyond  
9 the urban growth area to serve an institution, the public facility or  
10 utility may, where consistent with RCW 36.70A.110(4), serve a  
11 property or properties in addition to the school if the property  
12 owner so requests, provided that the county and all affected cities  
13 agree with the request and provided that the property is located no  
14 further from the public facility or utility than the distance that,  
15 if the property were within the urban growth area, the property would  
16 be required to connect to the public facility or utility. In such an  
17 instance, the institution may, for a period not to exceed twenty  
18 years, require reimbursement from a requesting property owner for a  
19 proportional share of the construction costs incurred by the  
20 institution for the extension of the public facility or utility.

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