
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1598

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Doglio, Dolan, Pollet, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing code cities of a certain size with
2 the ability to annex unincorporated areas without a referendum
3 provision pursuant to a jointly approved interlocal agreement with
4 the county; adding a new section to chapter 35A.14 RCW; and creating
5 a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that city
8 annexations of unincorporated areas within urban growth areas will be
9 more efficient and effective if the county and city develop a jointly
10 approved interlocal agreement so as not to create illogical
11 boundaries or islands of unincorporated territory.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.14
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) A code city as provided in subsection (2) of this section may
15 annex unincorporated territory pursuant to an interlocal agreement.

16 (2) The county legislative authority of each county with a
17 population of one hundred fifty thousand or more and the governing
18 body of each code city with a population in excess of twenty thousand
19 may jointly initiate an annexation process for unincorporated

1 territory by adopting an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter
2 39.34 RCW between the county and code city within the county.

3 (3) The county and code city shall jointly agree on the
4 boundaries of the annexation and its effective date. The interlocal
5 agreement shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be
6 annexed and set a date for a public hearing on such agreement for
7 annexation. An interlocal agreement may include phased annexation of
8 territory, and may be amended following the same process as initial
9 approval, including adding additional territory. A public hearing
10 shall be held by each legislative body, separately or jointly, before
11 the agreement is executed. Each legislative body holding a public
12 hearing shall, separately or jointly, publish the agreement at least
13 once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or
14 more newspapers of general circulation within the code city and one
15 or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory
16 proposed for annexation.

17 (4) On the date set for hearing, residents or property owners of
18 the area included in the resolution for annexation shall be afforded
19 an opportunity to be heard. Following the hearing, if the legislative
20 body determines to effect the annexation, they shall do so by
21 ordinance. If the annexation agreement includes phased annexation of
22 territory, the legislative body shall adopt a separate ordinance at
23 the time of annexation of each phase. Upon the date fixed in the
24 ordinance of annexation the area annexed shall become part of the
25 city. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of
26 indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice
27 shall include a statement of such requirements. Upon passage of the
28 annexation ordinance a certified copy shall be filed with the board
29 of county commissioners of the county in which the annexed property
30 is located.

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