

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## ESB 5876

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C 162 L 95  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Making population determinations and projections.

**Sponsors:** Senators Haugen and Winsley.

**Senate Committee on Government Operations**  
**House Committee on Government Operations**

**Background:** Each county that plans under the Growth Management Act must designate an urban growth area within which urban growth shall be encouraged and outside of which growth can occur only if it is not urban in nature. Based upon the population growth management planning projection made for the county by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), the urban growth areas in the county shall include areas and densities sufficient to permit the urban growth that is projected to occur in the county for the succeeding 20-year period.

At least once every ten years, OFM must prepare 20-year growth management planning population projections for each county planning under the Growth Management Act and must review these projections with each county.

There are conflicting opinions as to whether an OFM projection is a floor, ceiling, or a floor and a ceiling. Questions have also been raised as to the accuracy of these OFM projections.

**Summary:** The 20-year growth management planning population projections prepared by OFM must also be reviewed with the cities within the county for which the projection is prepared. The county and its cities may provide OFM relevant information on which OFM must consider and comment before adoption.

Each projection may be expressed as a range, the middle range representing OFM's most likely projection. A city or county may petition OFM to revise the projection. OFM must complete the first set of ranges for every county by December 31, 1995.

A comprehensive plan adopted or amended before December 31, 1995 is not considered to be in noncompliance with the OFM population projection if the projection in the comprehensive plan is in compliance with the range to be adopted by OFM.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	45	0
House	96	0

**Effective:** April 27, 1995