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HOUSE BILL 2665

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representative Hargrove

Read first time 01/16/96. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the general policy statement included in the  
2 requirement for designating urban growth areas; and amending RCW  
3 36.70A.210.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.210 and 1994 c 249 s 28 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature recognizes that in general counties are  
8 ~~((regional governments within their boundaries))~~ the unit of local  
9 government most appropriate to provide regional governmental services,  
10 and cities are ~~((primary providers of))~~ the unit of local government  
11 most appropriate to provide urban governmental services ~~((within urban~~  
12 ~~growth areas))~~. For the purposes of this section, a "county-wide  
13 planning policy" is a written policy statement or statements used  
14 solely for establishing a county-wide framework from which county and  
15 city comprehensive plans are developed and adopted pursuant to this  
16 chapter. This framework shall ensure that city and county  
17 comprehensive plans are consistent as required in RCW 36.70A.100.  
18 Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the land-use powers  
19 of cities, the authority of cities to provide regional services, or the

1 authority of counties or special purpose districts to provide urban  
2 governmental services. It is the intent of the legislature that  
3 regional and urban governmental service decisions be made through the  
4 flexible process established in chapter 36.115 RCW.

5 (2) The legislative authority of a county that plans under RCW  
6 36.70A.040 shall adopt a county-wide planning policy in cooperation  
7 with the cities located in whole or in part within the county as  
8 follows:

9 (a) No later than sixty calendar days from July 16, 1991, the  
10 legislative authority of each county that as of June 1, 1991, was  
11 required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall convene a meeting  
12 with representatives of each city located within the county for the  
13 purpose of establishing a collaborative process that will provide a  
14 framework for the adoption of a county-wide planning policy. In other  
15 counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, this  
16 meeting shall be convened no later than sixty days after the date the  
17 county adopts its resolution of intention or was certified by the  
18 office of financial management.

19 (b) The process and framework for adoption of a county-wide  
20 planning policy specified in (a) of this subsection shall determine the  
21 manner in which the county and the cities agree to all procedures and  
22 provisions including but not limited to desired planning policies,  
23 deadlines, ratification of final agreements and demonstration thereof,  
24 and financing, if any, of all activities associated therewith.

25 (c) If a county fails for any reason to convene a meeting with  
26 representatives of cities as required in (a) of this subsection, the  
27 governor may immediately impose any appropriate sanction or sanctions  
28 on the county from those specified under RCW 36.70A.340.

29 (d) If there is no agreement by October 1, 1991, in a county that  
30 was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 as of June 1, 1991,  
31 or if there is no agreement within one hundred twenty days of the date  
32 the county adopted its resolution of intention or was certified by the  
33 office of financial management in any other county that is required or  
34 chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, the governor shall first inquire  
35 of the jurisdictions as to the reason or reasons for failure to reach  
36 an agreement. If the governor deems it appropriate, the governor may  
37 immediately request the assistance of the department of community,  
38 trade, and economic development to mediate any disputes that preclude  
39 agreement. If mediation is unsuccessful in resolving all disputes that

1 will lead to agreement, the governor may impose appropriate sanctions  
2 from those specified under RCW 36.70A.340 on the county, city, or  
3 cities for failure to reach an agreement as provided in this section.  
4 The governor shall specify the reason or reasons for the imposition of  
5 any sanction.

6 (e) No later than July 1, 1992, the legislative authority of each  
7 county that was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 as of  
8 June 1, 1991, or no later than fourteen months after the date the  
9 county adopted its resolution of intention or was certified by the  
10 office of financial management the county legislative authority of any  
11 other county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040,  
12 shall adopt a county-wide planning policy according to the process  
13 provided under this section and that is consistent with the agreement  
14 pursuant to (b) of this subsection, and after holding a public hearing  
15 or hearings on the proposed county-wide planning policy.

16 (3) A county-wide planning policy shall at a minimum, address the  
17 following:

18 (a) Policies to implement RCW 36.70A.110;

19 (b) Policies for promotion of contiguous and orderly development  
20 and provision of urban services to such development;

21 (c) Policies for siting public capital facilities of a county-wide  
22 or state-wide nature;

23 (d) Policies for county-wide transportation facilities and  
24 strategies;

25 (e) Policies that consider the need for affordable housing, such as  
26 housing for all economic segments of the population and parameters for  
27 its distribution;

28 (f) Policies for joint county and city planning within urban growth  
29 areas;

30 (g) Policies for county-wide economic development and employment;  
31 and

32 (h) An analysis of the fiscal impact.

33 (4) Federal agencies and Indian tribes may participate in and  
34 cooperate with the county-wide planning policy adoption process.  
35 Adopted county-wide planning policies shall be adhered to by state  
36 agencies.

37 (5) Failure to adopt a county-wide planning policy that meets the  
38 requirements of this section may result in the imposition of a sanction  
39 or sanctions on a county or city within the county, as specified in RCW

1 36.70A.340. In imposing a sanction or sanctions, the governor shall  
2 specify the reasons for failure to adopt a county-wide planning policy  
3 in order that any imposed sanction or sanctions are fairly and  
4 equitably related to the failure to adopt a county-wide planning  
5 policy.

6 (6) Cities and the governor may appeal an adopted county-wide  
7 planning policy to the growth management hearings board within sixty  
8 days of the adoption of the county-wide planning policy.

9 (7) Multicounty planning policies shall be adopted by two or more  
10 counties, each with a population of four hundred fifty thousand or  
11 more, with contiguous urban areas and may be adopted by other counties,  
12 according to the process established under this section or other  
13 processes agreed to among the counties and cities within the affected  
14 counties throughout the multicounty region.

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