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HOUSE BILL 2643

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State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunshee, Mulliken, Linville and Chase

Read first time 01/23/2002. Referred to Committee on Local Government & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to conditioning the issuance of building permits on  
2 connecting to public water systems; and amending RCW 19.27.097.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.27.097 and 1995 c 399 s 9 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Each applicant for a building permit of a building  
7 necessitating potable water shall provide evidence of an adequate water  
8 supply for the intended use of the building. Evidence may be in the  
9 form of a water right permit from the department of ecology, a letter  
10 from an approved water purveyor stating the ability to provide water,  
11 or another form sufficient to verify the existence of an adequate water  
12 supply. In addition to other authorities, the county or city may  
13 impose conditions on building permits requiring connection to an  
14 existing public water system where the existing system is willing and  
15 able to provide safe and reliable potable water to the applicant with  
16 reasonable economy and efficiency. The county or city shall require  
17 connection to a public water system operated by a water district,  
18 public utility district, or other special purpose district providing  
19 potable water service if the building will be located within the

1 service area of the district and the district has requested the county  
2 or city to impose that condition on the permit. An application for a  
3 water right shall not be sufficient proof of an adequate water supply.

4 (2) Within counties not required or not choosing to plan pursuant  
5 to RCW 36.70A.040, the county and the state may mutually determine  
6 those areas in the county in which the requirements of subsection (1)  
7 of this section shall not apply. The departments of health and ecology  
8 shall coordinate on the implementation of this section. Should the  
9 county and the state fail to mutually determine those areas to be  
10 designated pursuant to this subsection, the county may petition the  
11 department of community, trade, and economic development to mediate or,  
12 if necessary, make the determination.

13 (3) Buildings that do not need potable water facilities are exempt  
14 from the provisions of this section. The department of ecology, after  
15 consultation with local governments, may adopt rules to implement this  
16 section, which may recognize differences between high-growth and low-  
17 growth counties.

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