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**HOUSE BILL 1846**

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**State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Griffey, Barkis, Stokesbary, Haler, and Hargrove

AN ACT Relating to the development of new manufactured housing communities outside of urban growth areas under the growth management act; amending RCW 36.70A.350; and creating a new section.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  The legislature finds that a state of emergency exists within Washington state with regard to a shortage of rental housing in many parts of the state. As a result, it is the intent of the legislature to establish a pilot program to authorize counties to allow new manufactured housing communities in areas outside of urban growth areas, for the purpose of providing affordable housing, if the areas are currently served by utilities sufficient to allow the communities to function without additional utility resources.

**Sec.**  RCW 36.70A.350 and 1991 sp.s. c 32 s 16 are each amended to read as follows:

A county required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 may establish a process as part of its urban growth areas, that are designated under RCW 36.70A.110, for reviewing proposals to authorize new fully contained communities or manufactured housing communities located outside of the initially designated urban growth areas.

(1) A new fully contained community or manufactured housing community may be approved in a county planning under this chapter if criteria including, but not limited to, the following are met:

(a) New infrastructure is provided for and impact fees are established consistent with the requirements of RCW 82.02.050;

(b) Transit-oriented site planning and traffic demand management programs are implemented;

(c) Buffers are provided between the new ((~~fully contained~~)) communities and adjacent urban development;

(d) A mix of uses is provided to offer jobs, housing, and services to the residents of the new community;

(e) Affordable housing is provided within the new community for a broad range of income levels;

(f) Environmental protection has been addressed and provided for;

(g) Development regulations are established to ensure urban growth will not occur in adjacent nonurban areas;

(h) Provision is made to mitigate impacts on designated agricultural lands, forestlands, and mineral resource lands;

(i) The plan for the new ((~~fully contained~~)) community is consistent with the development regulations established for the protection of critical areas by the county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170.

(2)(a) New fully contained communities may be approved outside established urban growth areas only if a county reserves a portion of the twenty-year population projection and offsets the urban growth area accordingly for allocation to new fully contained communities that meet the requirements of this chapter. Any county electing to establish a new community reserve shall do so no more often than once every five years as a part of the designation or review of urban growth areas required by this chapter. The new community reserve shall be allocated on a project-by-project basis, only after specific project approval procedures have been adopted pursuant to this chapter as a development regulation. When a new community reserve is established, urban growth areas designated pursuant to this chapter shall accommodate the unreserved portion of the twenty-year population projection. This subsection (2)(a) does not apply to proposals for new manufactured housing communities under this section.

(b) Final approval of an application for a new fully contained community or manufactured housing community shall be considered an adopted amendment to the comprehensive plan prepared pursuant to RCW 36.70A.070 designating the new fully contained community or manufactured housing community as an urban growth area.

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