

ESHB 1017 - S AMD 247  
By Senator Zeiger

ADOPTED 04/11/2017

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) This chapter does not prohibit a county planning under RCW  
6 36.70A.040 from authorizing the extension of public facilities and  
7 utilities to serve a school sited in a rural area that serves  
8 students from a rural area and an urban area so long as the following  
9 requirements are met:

10 (a) The applicable school district board of directors has adopted  
11 a policy addressing school service area and facility needs and  
12 educational program requirements;

13 (b) The applicable school district has made a finding, with the  
14 concurrence of the county legislative authority and the legislative  
15 authorities of any affected cities, that the district's proposed site  
16 is suitable to site the school and any associated recreational  
17 facilities that the district has determined cannot reasonably be  
18 colocated on an existing school site, taking into consideration the  
19 policy adopted in (a) of this subsection and the extent to which  
20 vacant or developable land within the growth area meets those  
21 requirements;

22 (c) The county and any affected cities agree to the extension of  
23 public facilities and utilities to serve the school sited in a rural  
24 area that serves urban and rural students at the time of concurrence  
25 in (b) of this subsection;

26 (d) If the public facility or utility is extended beyond the  
27 urban growth area to serve a school, the public facility or utility  
28 must serve only the school and the costs of such extension must be  
29 borne by the applicable school district based on a reasonable nexus  
30 to the impacts of the school, except as provided in subsection (3) of  
31 this section; and

1 (e) Any impacts associated with the siting of the school are  
2 mitigated as required by the state environmental policy act, chapter  
3 43.21C RCW.

4 (2) This chapter does not prohibit either the expansion or  
5 modernization of an existing school in the rural area or the  
6 placement of portable classrooms at an existing school in the rural  
7 area.

8 (3) Where a public facility or utility has been extended beyond  
9 the urban growth area to serve a school, the public facility or  
10 utility may, where consistent with RCW 36.70A.110(4), serve a  
11 property or properties in addition to the school if a property owner  
12 so requests, provided that the county and any affected cities agree  
13 with the request and provided that the property is located no further  
14 from the public facility or utility than the distance that, if the  
15 property were within the urban growth area, the property would be  
16 required to connect to the public facility or utility. In such an  
17 instance, the school district may, for a period not to exceed twenty  
18 years, require reimbursement from a requesting property owner for a  
19 proportional share of the construction costs incurred by the school  
20 district for the extension of the public facility or utilities.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 (1) A county may authorize the siting in a rural area of a school  
24 that serves students from an urban area, even where otherwise  
25 prohibited by a multicounty planning policy, under the following  
26 circumstances:

27 (a) The county has a population of more than eight hundred forty  
28 thousand but fewer than one million five hundred thousand and abuts  
29 at least six other counties;

30 (b) The county must have adopted in its comprehensive plan a  
31 policy concerning the siting of schools in rural areas;

32 (c) Any impacts associated with the siting of such a school are  
33 mitigated as required by the state environmental policy act, chapter  
34 43.21C RCW; and

35 (d) The county must be a participant in a multicounty planning  
36 policy as described in RCW 36.70A.210.

37 (2) A multicounty planning policy in which any county referenced  
38 in subsection (1) of this section is a participant must be amended,  
39 at its next regularly scheduled update, to include a policy that

1 addresses the siting of schools in rural areas of all counties  
2 subject to the multicounty planning policy.

3 (3) A school sited under this section may not collect or impose  
4 the impact fees described in RCW 82.02.050.

5 (4) This section expires June 30, 2031.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 In a county that chooses to site schools under section 2 of this  
9 act, each school district within the county must participate in the  
10 county's periodic updates required by RCW 36.70A.130(1)(b) by:

11 (1) Coordinating its enrollment forecasts and projections with  
12 the county's adopted population projections;

13 (2) Identifying school siting criteria with the county, cities,  
14 and regional transportation planning organizations;

15 (3) Identifying suitable school sites with the county and cities,  
16 with priority to siting urban-serving schools in existing cities and  
17 towns in locations where students can safely walk and bicycle to the  
18 school from their homes and that can effectively be served with  
19 transit; and

20 (4) Working with the county and cities to identify school costs  
21 and funding for the capital facilities plan element required by RCW  
22 36.70A.070(3)."

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23 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "facilities;" strike the  
24 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter  
25 36.70A RCW; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: (1) States that a county may authorize the siting in a  
rural area of a school that serves students from an urban area if it  
abuts at least six other counties in addition to having a population  
of more than 840,000 but fewer than 1.5 million and meets other  
requirements.

(2) Removes the section of the bill that modifies the definition  
of rural governmental services and urban governmental services.

(3) Makes technical wording changes.

(4) States that section 2 will expire on June 30, 2031, instead  
of upon the adoption of the next regularly scheduled update of any  
multicounty planning policy.

(5) States that the Growth Management Act (GMA) does not prohibit the modernization, in addition to expansion, of an existing school in the rural area.

(6) Provides that the GMA does not prohibit a county from authorizing the extension of public facilities and utilities to serve a school sited in a rural area that serves students from a rural area and an urban area so long as certain requirements are met including:

(a) The applicable school district board of directors has adopted a policy addressing school service area and facility needs and educational program requirements;

(b) The applicable school district has made a finding with the concurrence of the county legislative authority and the legislative authorities of any affected cities that the district's site is suitable, taking into consideration the school district policy and the extent to which vacant or developable land within the growth area meets those requirements; and

(c) The county and any affected cities agree to the extension of public facilities and utilities at the time of concurrence.

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