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SENATE BILL 5256

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Sutherland, McCaslin and Erwin

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to annexation by cities and towns; amending RCW  
2 35.13.350 and 35A.14.550; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The decision to annex territory to a city or  
5 town is a political decision of the affected persons and the annexing  
6 city or town. It is the policy of this state to prohibit the use of  
7 public facilities to influence political campaigns and ballot  
8 propositions. It is the intent of the legislature that this  
9 prohibition be extended to prohibit the use of public facilities,  
10 including physical resources, employees, and the granting of reduced  
11 charges for services, to influence affected persons in deciding how to  
12 vote or whether to sign a petition to annex territory to a city or  
13 town.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.13.350 and 1989 c 351 s 8 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 A city or town can provide factual public information on the  
17 effects of a pending annexation proposed for the city or town. A city  
18 or town may not use any public facilities, including physical

1 resources, employees, and the granting of reduced charges for services  
2 to advocate for or against a proposed annexation whether such  
3 annexation is by the election method as provided in RCW 35.13.015  
4 through 35.13.110 or the petition method as provided in RCW 35.13.125  
5 through 35.13.160.

6       **Sec. 3.** RCW 35A.14.550 and 1989 c 351 s 9 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8       A code city can provide factual public information on the effects  
9 of pending annexation proposed for the code city. A code city may not  
10 use any public facilities, including physical resources, employees, and  
11 the granting of reduced charges for services to advocate for or against  
12 a proposed annexation whether such annexation is by the election method  
13 as provided in RCW 35A.14.015 through 35A.14.100 or the petition method  
14 as provided in RCW 35A.14.120 through 35A.14.150.

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