

6196-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Land Use & Planning (originally sponsored by Senators Benton, T. Sheldon and Mulliken)

Brief Description: Allowing single-family residential development outside urban growth areas in areas where housing is not affordable for first-time buyers.

SB 6196-S - DIGEST

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 2/16/04)

Finds that growth management regulations contribute to the high cost of housing in many Washington counties, and that loosening land use regulations will reduce housing prices.

Finds that numerous studies have determined that growth management restrictions increase the cost of housing.

Declares an intent to make housing more affordable for first-time home buyers in counties where housing is currently not affordable for first-time home buyers by allowing single-family detached residential development to be placed outside of urban growth boundaries at density levels currently prohibited under the prevailing interpretation of the growth management act.

Provides that these single-family detached homes could be placed outside of urban growth boundaries in counties where the first-time buyer housing affordability index demonstrates that housing is not affordable for first-time home buyers.