AN ACT Relating to creating more homes for Washington by increasing middle housing in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing; amending RCW 36.70A.030, 36.70A.280, 43.21C.495, and 43.21C.450; adding new sections to chapter 36.70A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 64.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 64.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 64.38 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 64.90 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that Washington is facing an unprecedented housing shortage for its current population and without significant action will not meet its goal of creating 1,000,000 homes by 2044.

Increasing housing options that are more affordable to various income levels is critical to achieving the state's housing goals, including those codified by the legislature under chapter 254, Laws of 2021.

There is continued need for the development of housing at all income levels, including middle housing that will provide a wider variety of housing options and configurations to allow Washingtonians to live near where they work.
To unlock opportunity for Washingtonians it is necessary to lift bans on the development of modest home choices in cities near job centers, transit, and amenity-rich neighborhoods.

Homes developed at higher densities and gentle density housing types are more affordable by design for Washington residents both in their construction and reduced household energy and transportation costs.

While creating more housing options, it is essential for cities to identify areas at higher risk of displacement and establish antidisplacement policies as required in Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1220 (chapter 254, Laws of 2021).

The state has made historic investments in subsidized affordable housing through the housing trust fund, yet even with these historic investments, the magnitude of the housing shortage requires both public and private investment.

In addition to addressing the housing shortage, allowing more housing options in areas already served by urban infrastructure will reduce the pressure to develop natural and working lands, support key strategies for climate change, food security, and Puget Sound recovery, and save taxpayers and ratepayers money.

Sec. 2.  RCW 36.70A.030 and 2021 c 254 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

1. "Administrative design review" means a development permit process whereby an application is reviewed, approved, or denied by the planning director or the planning director's designee based solely on objective design and development standards without a public meeting or hearing, unless such review is otherwise required by state or federal law, or the structure is a designated landmark or historic district established under a local preservation ordinance.

2. "Adopt a comprehensive land use plan" means to enact a new comprehensive land use plan or to update an existing comprehensive land use plan.

3. "Affordable housing" means, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, residential housing whose monthly costs, including utilities other than telephone, do not exceed thirty percent of the monthly income of a household whose income is:
(a) For rental housing, sixty percent of the median household income adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development; or

(b) For owner-occupied housing, eighty percent of the median household income adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

((4)) (4) "Agricultural land" means land primarily devoted to the commercial production of horticultural, viticultural, floricultural, dairy, apiary, vegetable, or animal products or of berries, grain, hay, straw, turf, seed, Christmas trees not subject to the excise tax imposed by RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140, finfish in upland hatcheries, or livestock, and that has long-term commercial significance for agricultural production.

((5)) (5) "City" means any city or town, including a code city.

((6)) (6) "Comprehensive land use plan," "comprehensive plan," or "plan" means a generalized coordinated land use policy statement of the governing body of a county or city that is adopted pursuant to this chapter.

((6)) (7) "Cottage housing" means residential units on a lot with a common open space that either: (a) Is owned in common; or (b) has units owned as condominium units with property owned in common and a minimum of 20 percent of the lot size as open space.

(8) "Courtyard apartments" means up to four attached dwelling units arranged on two or three sides of a yard or court.

(9) "Critical areas" include the following areas and ecosystems: (a) Wetlands; (b) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water; (c) fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas; (d) frequently flooded areas; and (e) geologically hazardous areas. "Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas" does not include such artificial features or constructs as irrigation delivery systems, irrigation infrastructure, irrigation canals, or drainage ditches that lie within the boundaries of and are maintained by a port district or an irrigation district or company.

((7)) (10) "Department" means the department of commerce.

((8)) (11) "Development regulations" or "regulation" means the controls placed on development or land use activities by a county or city, including, but not limited to, zoning ordinances, critical areas ordinances, shoreline master programs, official controls,
planned unit development ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and
binding site plan ordinances together with any amendments thereto. A
development regulation does not include a decision to approve a
project permit application, as defined in RCW 36.70B.020, even though
the decision may be expressed in a resolution or ordinance of the
legislative body of the county or city.

(12) "Emergency housing" means temporary indoor
accommodations for individuals or families who are homeless or at
imminent risk of becoming homeless that is intended to address the
basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of
individuals or families. Emergency housing may or may not require
occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement.

(13) "Emergency shelter" means a facility that provides
a temporary shelter for individuals or families who are currently
homeless. Emergency shelter may not require occupants to enter into a
lease or an occupancy agreement. Emergency shelter facilities may
include day and warming centers that do not provide overnight
accommodations.

(14) "Extremely low-income household" means a single
person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted
income is at or below thirty percent of the median household income
adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is
located, as reported by the United States department of housing and
urban development.

(15) "Forestland" means land primarily devoted to
growing trees for long-term commercial timber production on land that
can be economically and practically managed for such production,
including Christmas trees subject to the excise tax imposed under RCW
84.33.100 through 84.33.140, and that has long-term commercial
significance. In determining whether forestland is primarily devoted
to growing trees for long-term commercial timber production on land
that can be economically and practically managed for such production,
the following factors shall be considered: (a) The proximity of the
land to urban, suburban, and rural settlements; (b) surrounding
parcel size and the compatibility and intensity of adjacent and
nearby land uses; (c) long-term local economic conditions that affect
the ability to manage for timber production; and (d) the availability
of public facilities and services conducive to conversion of
forestland to other uses.
"Freight rail dependent uses" means buildings and other infrastructure that are used in the fabrication, processing, storage, and transport of goods where the use is dependent on and makes use of an adjacent short line railroad. Such facilities are both urban and rural development for purposes of this chapter. "Freight rail dependent uses" does not include buildings and other infrastructure that are used in the fabrication, processing, storage, and transport of coal, liquefied natural gas, or "crude oil" as defined in RCW 90.56.010.

"Geologically hazardous areas" means areas that because of their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events, are not suited to the siting of commercial, residential, or industrial development consistent with public health or safety concerns.

"Long-term commercial significance" includes the growing capacity, productivity, and soil composition of the land for long-term commercial production, in consideration with the land's proximity to population areas, and the possibility of more intense uses of the land.

"Low-income household" means a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or below eighty percent of the median household income adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

"Major transit stop" means:
(a) A stop on a high capacity transportation system funded or expanded under the provisions of chapter 81.104 RCW;
(b) Commuter rail stops;
(c) Stops on rail or fixed guideway systems, including transitways; or
(d) Stops on bus rapid transit routes.

"Middle housing" means buildings that are compatible in scale, form, and character with single-family houses and contain two or more attached, stacked, or clustered homes including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, fiveplexes, sixplexes, townhouses, stacked flats, courtyard apartments, and cottage housing.

"Minerals" include gravel, sand, and valuable metallic substances.
"Moderate-income household" means a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or below 120 percent of the median household income adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

"Permanent supportive housing" is subsidized, leased housing with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing, especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the resident's health status, and connect the resident of the housing with community-based health care, treatment, or employment services. Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW.

"Public facilities" include streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational facilities, and schools.

"Public services" include fire protection and suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental protection, and other governmental services.

"Recreational land" means land so designated under RCW 36.70A.1701 and that, immediately prior to this designation, was designated as agricultural land of long-term commercial significance under RCW 36.70A.170. Recreational land must have playing fields and supporting facilities existing before July 1, 2004, for sports played on grass playing fields.

"Rural character" refers to the patterns of land use and development established by a county in the rural element of its comprehensive plan:

(a) In which open space, the natural landscape, and vegetation predominate over the built environment;
(b) That foster traditional rural lifestyles, rural-based economies, and opportunities to both live and work in rural areas;

(c) That provide visual landscapes that are traditionally found in rural areas and communities;

(d) That are compatible with the use of the land by wildlife and for fish and wildlife habitat;

(e) That reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development;

(f) That generally do not require the extension of urban governmental services; and

(g) That are consistent with the protection of natural surface water flows and groundwater and surface water recharge and discharge areas.

"Rural development" refers to development outside the urban growth area and outside agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands designated pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. Rural development can consist of a variety of uses and residential densities, including clustered residential development, at levels that are consistent with the preservation of rural character and the requirements of the rural element. Rural development does not refer to agriculture or forestry activities that may be conducted in rural areas.

"Rural governmental services" or "rural services" include those public services and public facilities historically and typically delivered at an intensity usually found in rural areas, and may include domestic water systems, fire and police protection services, transportation and public transit services, and other public utilities associated with rural development and normally not associated with urban areas. Rural services do not include storm or sanitary sewers, except as otherwise authorized by RCW 36.70A.110(4).

"Short line railroad" means those railroad lines designated class II or class III by the United States surface transportation board.

"Stacked flat" means dwelling units in a residential building of no more than three stories on a residential zoned lot in which each floor may be separately rented or owned.

"Townhouses" means buildings that contain three or more attached single-family dwelling units that extend from foundation to roof and that have a yard or public way on not less than two sides.
(34) "Urban governmental services" or "urban services" include those public services and public facilities at an intensity historically and typically provided in cities, specifically including storm and sanitary sewer systems, domestic water systems, street cleaning services, fire and police protection services, public transit services, and other public utilities associated with urban areas and normally not associated with rural areas.

(35) "Urban growth" refers to growth that makes intensive use of land for the location of buildings, structures, and impermeable surfaces to such a degree as to be incompatible with the primary use of land for the production of food, other agricultural products, or fiber, or the extraction of mineral resources, rural uses, rural development, and natural resource lands designated pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170. A pattern of more intensive rural development, as provided in RCW 36.70A.070(5)(d), is not urban growth. When allowed to spread over wide areas, urban growth typically requires urban governmental services. "Characterized by urban growth" refers to land having urban growth located on it, or to land located in relationship to an area with urban growth on it as to be appropriate for urban growth.

(36) "Urban growth areas" means those areas designated by a county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.110.

(37) "Very low-income household" means a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or below fifty percent of the median household income adjusted for household size, for the county where the household is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

(38) "Wetland" or "wetlands" means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road,
street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas created to mitigate conversion of wetlands.

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

(1) Except as provided in section 4, 5, or 6 of this act, any city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 must provide by ordinance and incorporate into its development regulations, zoning regulations, and other official controls, authorization for the following:

(a) For cities with a population of at least 25,000 but less than 75,000, that are not within a contiguous urban growth area with the largest city in a county with a population of more than 275,000, based on office of financial management population estimates:

(i) The development of at least two units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use;

(ii) The development of at least four units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use within one-half mile walking distance of a major transit stop; and

(iii) The development of at least four units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use if at least one unit is affordable housing.

(b) For cities with a population of at least 75,000, or any city within a contiguous urban growth area with the largest city in a county with a population of more than 275,000, based on office of financial management population estimates:

(i) The development of at least four units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use;

(ii) The development of at least six units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use within one-quarter mile walking distance of a major transit stop; and

(iii) The development of at least six units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use if at least two units are affordable housing.

(2)(a) To qualify for the additional units allowed under subsection (1) of this section, the applicant must commit to renting or selling the required number of units as affordable housing. The units must be maintained as affordable for a term of at least 50 years, and the property must satisfy that commitment and all required
affordability and income eligibility conditions adopted by the local
government under this chapter. A city must require the applicant to
record a covenant or deed restriction that ensures the continuing
rental of units subject to these affordability requirements
consistent with the conditions in chapter 84.14 RCW for a period of
no less than 50 years. The covenant or deed restriction must also
address criteria and policies to maintain public benefit if the
property is converted to a use other than which continues to provide
for permanently affordable housing.

(b) The units dedicated as affordable must be provided in a range
of sizes comparable to other units in the development. To the extent
practicable, the number of bedrooms in affordable units must be in
the same proportion as the number of bedrooms in units within the
entire development. The affordable units must generally be
distributed throughout the development and have substantially the
same functionality as the other units in the development.

(c) If a city has enacted a program under RCW 36.70A.540, the
terms of that program govern to the extent they vary from the
requirements of this subsection.

(3) If a city has enacted a program under RCW 36.70A.540,
subsection (1) of this section does not preclude the city from
requiring any development, including development described in
subsection (1) of this section, to provide affordable housing, either
on-site or through an in-lieu payment, nor limit the city's ability
to expand such a program or modify its requirements.

(4) A city must allow at least six of the nine types of middle
housing to achieve the unit density required in subsection (1) of
this section. A city must also allow zero lot line short subdivision
where the number of lots created is equal to the unit density
required in subsection (1) of this section.

(5) Any city subject to the requirements of this section:
(a) May only adopt objective development and design standards on
the development of middle housing;
(b) May only apply administrative design review;
(c) Except as provided in (a) of this subsection, shall not
require through development regulations any standards for middle
housing that are more restrictive than those required for detached
single-family residences, but may apply any objective development
regulations that are required for detached single-family residences,
including set-back and tree canopy and retention requirements;
(d) Shall apply to middle housing the same development permit and environmental review processes that apply to detached single-family residences, unless otherwise required by state law including, but not limited to, shoreline regulations under chapter 90.58 RCW, building codes under chapter 19.27 RCW, energy codes under chapter 19.27A RCW, or electrical codes under chapter 19.28 RCW;

(e) Shall not require off-street parking as a condition of permitting development of middle housing within one-half mile walking distance of a major transit stop;

(f) Shall not require more than one off-street parking space per unit as a condition of permitting development of middle housing on lots smaller than 6,000 square feet;

(g) Shall not require more than two off-street parking spaces per unit as a condition of permitting development of middle housing on lots greater than 6,000 square feet; and

(h) May impose a limit of two units on a residential lot of 2,000 square feet or less created through a lot split pursuant to RCW 36.70A.--- (section 2, chapter . . . (ESSB 1245), Laws of 2023).

(6) The provisions of subsection (5)(e) through (g) of this section do not apply:

(a) If a local government submits to the department an empirical study prepared by a credentialed transportation or land use planning expert that clearly demonstrates, and the department finds and certifies, that the application of the parking limitations of subsection (5)(e) through (g) of this section for middle housing will be significantly less safe for vehicle drivers or passengers, pedestrians, or bicyclists than if the jurisdiction's parking requirements were applied to the same location for the same number of detached houses. The department must develop guidance to assist cities on items to include in the study; or

(b) To portions of cities within a one-mile radius of a commercial airport in Washington with at least 9,000,000 annual enplanements.

(7) The provisions of this section do not apply to lots designated with critical areas or their buffers as designated in RCW 36.70A.060, or to a watershed serving a reservoir for potable water if that watershed is or was listed, as of the effective date of this section, as impaired or threatened under section 303(d) of the federal clean water act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1313(d)).
(8) Nothing in this section prohibits a city from permitting detached single-family residences.

(9) Nothing in this section requires a city to issue a building permit if other federal, state, and local requirements for a building permit are not met.

(10) A city must comply with the requirements of this section or section 4 of this act on the latter of:

(a) Six months after its next periodic comprehensive plan update required under RCW 36.70A.130; or

(b) 12 months after a determination by the office of financial management that the city has reached a population threshold established under this section.

(11) Except for specific areas granted an implementation timeline extension under section 10 of this act and for a city implementing the alternative density requirements under section 5 of this act, the capital facilities plan element required by RCW 36.70A.070(3) is not required to be updated to accommodate the increased housing and population capacity required by this act until the periodic comprehensive plan update required for the city under RCW 36.70A.130(5) that occurs on or after June 30, 2034.

(12) Any city that adopts development regulations consistent with the requirements of section 3 of this act shall be considered in compliance with RCW 36.70A.070(2)(f) until June 30, 2032.

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

(1) As an alternative to the density requirements in section 3(1) of this act, a city may implement the density requirements in section 3(1) of this act for at least 75 percent of lots in the city that are primarily dedicated to single-family detached housing units.

(2) The 25 percent of lots for which the requirements of section 3(1) of this act are not implemented must include:

(a) Any areas within the city for which the department has certified an extension of the implementation timelines under section 8 of this act due to the risk of displacement;

(b) Any areas within the city for which the department has certified an extension of the implementation timelines under section 10 of this act due to a lack of infrastructure capacity;
(c) Any lots designated with critical areas or their buffers that are exempt from the density requirements as provided in section 3(7) of this act;

(d) Any portion of a city within a one-mile radius of a commercial airport with at least 9,000,000 annual enplanements that is exempt from the parking requirements under section 3(6)(b) of this act; and

(e) Any areas subject to sea level rise, increased flooding, or geological hazards over the next 100 years.

(3) Unless identified as at higher risk of displacement under RCW 36.70A.070(g), the 25 percent of lots for which the requirements of section 3(1) of this act are not implemented may not include:

(a) Any areas for which the exclusion would further racially disparate impacts or result in zoning with a discriminatory effect;

(b) Any areas within one-half mile walking distance of a major transit stop or community amenity;

(c) Any areas historically covered by a covenant or deed restriction excluding racial minorities from owning property or living in the area, as known to the city at the time of each comprehensive plan update; or

(d) Any areas within one-half mile walking distance of a building, shopping center, or business area containing at least 100,000 square feet of retail space.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:

As an alternative to the density requirements in section 3(1)(b) of this act, cities with a population of less than 75,000 within a contiguous urban growth area with the largest city in a county with a population of more than 275,000, based on office of financial management population estimates, may authorize:

(1) The development of at least three units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use;

(2) The development of at least six units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use within one-half mile walking distance of a major transit stop; and

(3) The development of at least four units per lot on all lots zoned predominantly for residential use if at least one unit is affordable housing.
NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:

Population associated with permits for middle housing units are exempt from the threshold of an office of financial management population projection to a county or a county population allocation to a city.

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

(1) (a) The department is directed to provide technical assistance to cities as they implement the requirements under section 3, 4, or 5 of this act.

         (b) The department shall prioritize such technical assistance to cities demonstrating the greatest need.

(2) (a) The department shall publish model middle housing ordinances no later than six months following the effective date of this section.

         (b) In any city subject to section 3 of this act that has not passed ordinances, regulations, or other official controls within the time frames provided under section 3(10) of this act, the model ordinance supersedes, preempts, and invalidates local development regulations until the city takes all actions necessary to implement section 3, 4, or 5 of this act.

(3) (a) The department is directed to establish a process by which cities implementing the requirements of section 3 of this act may seek approval of alternative local action necessary to meet the requirements of this act.

         (b) The department may approve actions under this section for cities that have, by January 1, 2023, adopted a comprehensive plan that is substantially similar to the requirements of this act and, within one year of the effective date of this section, adopts permanent development regulations that are substantially similar to the requirements of this act. In determining whether a city's adopted comprehensive plan and permanent development regulations are substantially similar, the department must find as substantially similar plans and regulations that:

         (i) Result in an overall increase in housing units allowed in single-family zones that is at least 75 percent of the increase in housing units allowed in single-family zones if the specific provisions of this act were adopted;
(ii) Allow for middle housing throughout the city, rather than just in targeted locations; and
(iii) Allow for additional density near major transit stops and community amenities, and for projects that incorporate dedicated affordable housing.

(c) The department may determine that a comprehensive plan and development regulations that do not meet these criteria are otherwise substantially similar to the requirements of this act if the city can clearly demonstrate that the regulations adopted will result in a greater increase in middle housing production within single family zones than would be allowed through implementation of section 3 of this act.

(d) Any local actions approved by the department pursuant to (a) of this subsection to implement the requirements under section 3 of this act are exempt from appeals under this chapter and chapter 43.21C RCW.

(e) The department's final decision to approve or reject actions by cities implementing section 3 of this act may be appealed to the growth management hearings board by filing a petition as provided in RCW 36.70A.290.

(4) For the purpose of this section, "single-family zones" means those zones where single-family detached housing is the predominant land use.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:

Any city choosing the alternative density requirements in section 4 of this act may apply to the department for, and the department may certify, an extension for areas at risk of displacement as determined by the antidisplacement analysis that a jurisdiction is required to complete under RCW 36.70A.070(2). The city must create a plan for implementing antidisplacement policies by their next implementation progress report required by RCW 36.70A.130(9).

Sec. 9. RCW 36.70A.280 and 2011 c 360 s 17 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The growth management hearings board shall hear and determine only those petitions alleging either:
(a) That, except as provided otherwise by this subsection, a state agency, county, or city planning under this chapter is not in
compliance with the requirements of this chapter, chapter 90.58 RCW as it relates to the adoption of shoreline master programs or amendments thereto, or chapter 43.21C RCW as it relates to plans, development regulations, or amendments, adopted under RCW 36.70A.040 or chapter 90.58 RCW. Nothing in this subsection authorizes the board to hear petitions alleging noncompliance with RCW 36.70A.5801; 

(b) That the twenty-year growth management planning population projections adopted by the office of financial management pursuant to RCW 43.62.035 should be adjusted; 

(c) That the approval of a work plan adopted under RCW 36.70A.735(1)(a) is not in compliance with the requirements of the program established under RCW 36.70A.710; 

(d) That regulations adopted under RCW 36.70A.735(1)(b) are not regionally applicable and cannot be adopted, wholly or partially, by another jurisdiction; or 

(e) That a department certification under RCW 36.70A.735(1)(c) is erroneous; or 

(f) That the department's final decision to approve or reject actions by a city implementing section 3 of this act is clearly erroneous. 

(2) A petition may be filed only by: (a) The state, or a county or city that plans under this chapter; (b) a person who has participated orally or in writing before the county or city regarding the matter on which a review is being requested; (c) a person who is certified by the governor within sixty days of filing the request with the board; or (d) a person qualified pursuant to RCW 34.05.530. 

(3) For purposes of this section "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, state agency, governmental subdivision or unit thereof, or public or private organization or entity of any character. 

(4) To establish participation standing under subsection (2)(b) of this section, a person must show that his or her participation before the county or city was reasonably related to the person's issue as presented to the board. 

(5) When considering a possible adjustment to a growth management planning population projection prepared by the office of financial management, the board shall consider the implications of any such adjustment to the population forecast for the entire state.
The rationale for any adjustment that is adopted by the board must be documented and filed with the office of financial management within ten working days after adoption.

If adjusted by the board, a county growth management planning population projection shall only be used for the planning purposes set forth in this chapter and shall be known as the "board adjusted population projection." None of these changes shall affect the official state and county population forecasts prepared by the office of financial management, which shall continue to be used for state budget and planning purposes.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:

(1) Any city choosing the alternative density requirements in section 4 of this act may apply to the department for, and the department may certify, an extension of the implementation timelines established under section 3(10) of this act.

(2) An extension certified under this section may be applied only to specific areas where a city can demonstrate that water, sewer, stormwater, or fire protection services lack capacity to accommodate the density required in section 3 of this act, and the city has:

   (a) Included one or more improvements, as needed, within its capital facilities plan to adequately increase capacity; or
   (b) Identified which special district is responsible for providing the necessary infrastructure if the infrastructure is provided by a special purpose district.

(3) An extension granted under this section remains in effect until the earliest of:

   (a) The infrastructure is improved to accommodate the capacity;
   (b) The city's deadline to complete its next periodic comprehensive plan update under RCW 36.70A.130; or
   (c) The city's deadline to complete its implementation progress report to the department as required under RCW 36.70A.130(9).

(4) A city that has received an extension under this section may reapply for any needed extension with its next periodic comprehensive plan update under RCW 36.70A.130 or its implementation progress report to the department under RCW 36.70A.130(9). The application for an additional extension must include a list of infrastructure improvements necessary to meet the capacity required in section 3 of this act. Such additional extension must only be to address...
infrastructure deficiency that a city is not reasonably able to address within the first extension.

(5) The department may establish by rule any standards or procedures necessary to implement this section.

(6) The department must provide the legislature with a list of projects identified in a city's capital facilities plan that were the basis for the extension under this section, including planning level estimates. Additionally, the city must contact special purpose districts to identify additional projects associated with extensions under this section.

(7) A city granted an extension for a specific area must allow development as provided under section 3 of this act if the developer commits to providing the necessary water, sewer, or stormwater infrastructure.

(8) No city shall approve a building permit for housing under section 3 or 4 of this act without compliance with the adequate water supply requirements of RCW 19.27.097.

Sec. 11. RCW 43.21C.495 and 2022 c 246 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Adoption of ordinances, development regulations and amendments to such regulations, and other nonproject actions taken by a city to implement: The actions specified in section 2, chapter 246, Laws of 2022 unless the adoption of such ordinances, development regulations and amendments to such regulations, or other nonproject actions has a probable significant adverse impact on fish habitat; and the increased residential building capacity actions identified in RCW 36.70A.600(1), with the exception of the action specified in RCW 36.70A.600(1)(f), are not subject to administrative or judicial appeals under this chapter.

(2) Amendments to development regulations and other nonproject actions taken by a city to implement the requirements under section 3 of this act pursuant to section 7(3)(b) of this act are not subject to administrative or judicial appeals under this chapter.

Sec. 12. RCW 43.21C.450 and 2012 1st sp.s. c 1 s 307 are each amended to read as follows:

The following nonproject actions are categorically exempt from the requirements of this chapter:
(1) Amendments to development regulations that are required to ensure consistency with an adopted comprehensive plan pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040, where the comprehensive plan was previously subjected to environmental review pursuant to this chapter and the impacts associated with the proposed regulation were specifically addressed in the prior environmental review;

(2) Amendments to development regulations that are required to ensure consistency with a shoreline master program approved pursuant to RCW 90.58.090, where the shoreline master program was previously subjected to environmental review pursuant to this chapter and the impacts associated with the proposed regulation were specifically addressed in the prior environmental review;

(3) Amendments to development regulations that, upon implementation of a project action, will provide increased environmental protection, limited to the following:
   (a) Increased protections for critical areas, such as enhanced buffers or setbacks;
   (b) Increased vegetation retention or decreased impervious surface areas in shoreline jurisdiction; and
   (c) Increased vegetation retention or decreased impervious surface areas in critical areas;

(4) Amendments to technical codes adopted by a county, city, or town to ensure consistency with minimum standards contained in state law, including the following:
   (a) Building codes required by chapter 19.27 RCW;
   (b) Energy codes required by chapter 19.27A RCW; and
   (c) Electrical codes required by chapter 19.28 RCW.

(5) Amendments to development regulations to remove requirements for parking from development proposed to fill in an urban growth area designated according to RCW 36.70A.110.

NEW SECTION.  Sec. 13. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:
A city that adopts development regulations that are consistent with and implement this act and RCW 35A.21.430 or 35.21.683 shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070(2)(d) until June 30, 2032.

NEW SECTION.  Sec. 14. A new section is added to chapter 64.34 RCW to read as follows:
A declaration created after the effective date of this section and applicable to an area within a city subject to the middle housing requirements in section 3 of this act may not actively or effectively prohibit the construction, development, or use of additional housing units as required in section 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. A new section is added to chapter 64.32 RCW to read as follows:

A declaration created after the effective date of this section and applicable to an association of apartment owners located within an area of a city subject to the middle housing requirements in section 3 of this act may not actively or effectively prohibit the construction, development, or use of additional housing units as required in section 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. A new section is added to chapter 64.38 RCW to read as follows:

Governing documents of associations within cities subject to the middle housing requirements in section 3 of this act that are created after the effective date of this section may not actively or effectively prohibit the construction, development, or use of additional housing units as required in section 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. A new section is added to chapter 64.90 RCW to read as follows:

Declarations and governing documents of a common interest community within cities subject to the middle housing requirements in section 3 of this act that are created after the effective date of this section may not actively or effectively prohibit the construction, development, or use of additional housing units as required in section 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. A new section is added to chapter 64.90 RCW to read as follows:

The department of commerce may establish by rule any standards or procedures necessary to implement this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. If specific funding for the purposes of this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
provided by June 30, 2023, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

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