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**HOUSE BILL 1978**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Rule, Volz, Ryu, Ramel, Ormsby, and Reeves; by request of Military Department

Prefiled 12/20/23. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans.

1 AN ACT Relating to the addition of special purpose and junior  
2 taxing districts to the intrastate mutual aid system; and amending  
3 RCW 38.56.020.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 38.56.020 and 2011 c 79 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) The intrastate mutual aid system is established to provide  
8 for mutual assistance in an emergency among political subdivisions  
9 and federally recognized Indian tribes that choose to participate as  
10 member jurisdictions.

11 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, member  
12 jurisdictions of the intrastate mutual aid system include:

13 (a) A political subdivision, special purpose district as defined  
14 in RCW 36.96.010, or junior taxing district as described in RCW  
15 84.52.043; and

16 (b) Any federally recognized Indian tribe located within the  
17 boundaries of the state of Washington upon receipt by the department  
18 of a tribal government resolution declaring its intention to be a  
19 member jurisdiction in the intrastate mutual aid system under this  
20 chapter.

1           (3) (a) A member jurisdiction is released from membership in the  
2 intrastate mutual aid system established under this chapter upon  
3 receipt by the department of a resolution or ordinance declaring that  
4 the member jurisdiction elects not to participate in the system.

5           (b) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to affect other  
6 mutual aid systems or agreements otherwise authorized by law,  
7 including the Washington state fire services mobilization plan and  
8 the law enforcement mobilization plan under chapter 43.43 RCW, nor  
9 preclude a political subdivision or Indian tribe from entering or  
10 participating in those mutual aid systems or agreements.

11          (4) Mutual assistance may be requested by, and provided to,  
12 member jurisdictions under this chapter for: (a) Response,  
13 mitigation, or recovery activities related to an emergency; or (b)  
14 participation in drills or exercises in preparation for an emergency.

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