
HOUSE BILL 1654

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Donaghy, Reeves, Griffey, Bronoske, Parshley, Ramel, Obras, Berg, Stonier, Taylor, and Nance

Read first time 01/28/25. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the administration of the international fire
2 code; and amending RCW 19.27.110.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.27.110 and 2003 c 291 s 4 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Each county government shall administer and enforce the
7 International Fire Code in the unincorporated areas of the county:
8 PROVIDED, That any political subdivision or municipal corporation
9 providing fire protection pursuant to RCW 14.08.120 shall, at its
10 sole option, be responsible for administration and enforcement of the
11 International Fire Code on its facility: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a
12 fire protection district or regional fire protection service
13 authority with more than \$10,000,000 in annual revenues for the
14 preceding three years, or a regional fire protection service
15 authority that is being formed by participating jurisdictions that
16 cumulatively had more than \$10,000,000 in annual revenues for three
17 years prior to the formation of the regional fire protection service
18 authority, shall, at its sole option and upon six months' advance
19 notice to the county government, assume responsibility for
20 administration and enforcement under the International Fire Code,
21 including conducting investigations of fire cause and origin,

1 planning review, and building inspections, in the unincorporated
2 areas of the county within its jurisdiction. Any fire protection
3 district, regional fire protection service authority, or political
4 subdivision may, pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW, the interlocal
5 cooperation act, assume all or a portion of the administering
6 responsibility and coordinate and cooperate with the county
7 government in the enforcement of the International Fire Code.

8 It is not the intent of RCW 19.27.110 and 19.27.111 to preclude
9 or limit the authority of any city, town, county, fire protection
10 district, state agency, or political subdivision from engaging in
11 those fire prevention activities with which they are charged.

12 It is not the intent of the legislature by adopting the state
13 building code or RCW 19.27.110 and 19.27.111 to grant counties any
14 more power to suppress or extinguish fires than counties currently
15 possess under the Constitution or other statutes.

16 Each county is authorized to impose fees sufficient to pay the
17 cost of inspections, administration, and enforcement pursuant to RCW
18 19.27.110 and 19.27.111.

19 Each fire protection district or regional fire protection service
20 authority that assumes responsibility for administration and
21 enforcement under the International Fire Code within its
22 jurisdiction, including conducting investigations to determine fire
23 cause and origin, planning review, and inspections, is authorized to
24 impose fees sufficient to pay the cost of inspections of such
25 administration and enforcement pursuant to RCW 19.27.110 and
26 19.27.111.

27 If a fire protection district or regional fire protection service
28 authority assumes responsibility as stated in this section, the fire
29 protection district or regional fire protection service authority
30 must offer an equivalent position to all workers displaced from the
31 change in administration within the county fire marshal's office.

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