
SENATE BILL 6096

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators Goehner, Bateman, and Nobles

Read first time 01/13/26. Referred to Committee on Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to delayed utility connection fees for
2 residential construction; and amending RCW 35.92.025.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.92.025 and 1985 c 445 s 6 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Cities and towns are authorized to charge property owners
7 seeking to connect to the water or sewerage system of the city or
8 town as a condition to granting the right to so connect, in addition
9 to the cost of such connection, such reasonable connection charge as
10 the legislative body of the city or town shall determine proper in
11 order that such property owners shall bear their equitable share of
12 the cost of such system. The equitable share may include interest
13 charges applied from the date of construction of the water or sewer
14 system until the connection, or for a period not to exceed ten years,
15 at a rate commensurate with the rate of interest applicable to the
16 city or town at the time of construction or major rehabilitation of
17 the water or sewer system, or at the time of installation of the
18 water or sewer lines to which the property owner is seeking to
19 connect but not to exceed ten percent per year: PROVIDED, That the
20 aggregate amount of interest shall not exceed the equitable share of

1 the cost of the system allocated to such property owners. Connection
2 charges collected shall be considered revenue of such system.

3 (2)(a) Cities and towns collecting connection charges as
4 authorized in subsection (1) of this section must, by 2030, adopt and
5 maintain a system for the deferred collection of connection charges
6 for single-family detached, single-family attached, and multifamily
7 residential construction. The deferral system must include a process
8 by which an applicant for a building permit for a single-family
9 detached, single-family attached, or multifamily residence may
10 request a deferral of the full payment of connection charges. The
11 deferral system offered by a city or town under this subsection must
12 include one or more of the following options:

13 (i) Deferring collection of the impact fee payment until final
14 inspection; or

15 (ii) Deferring collection of the impact fee payment until
16 certificate of occupancy or equivalent certification.

17 (b) Cities and towns utilizing the deferral process required by
18 this subsection must withhold certification of final inspection,
19 certificate of occupancy, or equivalent certification until the
20 connection charges have been paid in full.

21 (c) For the purpose of this subsection (2), "connection charges"
22 means the one-time capital and administrative charges, as authorized
23 in subsection (1) of this section, that are imposed by a utility on a
24 single-family detached, single-family attached, or multifamily
25 residence for a new utility service and costs borne or assessed by a
26 utility for the labor, materials, and services necessary to
27 physically connect a designated residence to the respective utility
28 service.

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