
HOUSE BILL 1887

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Fraser, Belcher, Beck, Valle, Brumsickle, Rust, Ogden, Pruitt, Jacobsen, Sprenkle, Rasmussen, Prentice, Moyer, Forner, Padden, Paris, Phillips, Miller, May, Winsley, Tate, D. Sommers and Silver.

Read first time February 13, 1991. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks\Revenue.

1 AN ACT Relating to open space land; and amending RCW 84.34.020.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.34.020 and 1988 c 253 s 3 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is required by
6 the context:

7 (1) "Open space land" means (a) any land area so designated by an
8 official comprehensive land use plan adopted by any city or county and
9 zoned accordingly or (b) any land area, the preservation of which in
10 its present use would (i) conserve and enhance natural or scenic
11 resources, or (ii) protect streams or water supply, or (iii) promote
12 conservation of soils, wetlands, beaches or tidal marshes, or (iv)
13 enhance the value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks,
14 forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations or sanctuaries or
15 other open space, or (v) enhance recreation opportunities, or (vi)

1 preserve historic sites, or (vii) preserve visual quality along
2 highway, road, and street corridors or scenic vistas, or ((+vii))
3 (viii) retain in its natural state tracts of land not less than five
4 acres situated in an urban area and open to public use on such
5 conditions as may be reasonably required by the legislative body
6 granting the open space classification.

7 (2) "Farm and agricultural land" means either (a) land in any
8 contiguous ownership of twenty or more acres (i) devoted primarily to
9 the production of livestock or agricultural commodities for commercial
10 purposes, or (ii) enrolled in the federal conservation reserve program
11 or its successor administered by the United States department of
12 agriculture; (b) any parcel of land five acres or more but less than
13 twenty acres devoted primarily to agricultural uses, which has produced
14 a gross income from agricultural uses equivalent to one hundred dollars
15 or more per acre per year for three of the five calendar years
16 preceding the date of application for classification under this
17 chapter; or (c) any parcel of land of less than five acres devoted
18 primarily to agricultural uses which has produced a gross income of one
19 thousand dollars or more per year for three of the five calendar years
20 preceding the date of application for classification under this
21 chapter. Agricultural lands shall also include farm woodlots of less
22 than twenty and more than five acres and the land on which
23 appurtenances necessary to the production, preparation or sale of the
24 agricultural products exist in conjunction with the lands producing
25 such products. Agricultural lands shall also include any parcel of
26 land of one to five acres, which is not contiguous, but which otherwise
27 constitutes an integral part of farming operations being conducted on
28 land qualifying under this section as "farm and agricultural lands".

29 (3) "Timber land" means land in any contiguous ownership of five or
30 more acres which is devoted primarily to the growth and harvest of

1 forest crops and which is not classified as reforestation land pursuant
2 to chapter 84.28 RCW. Timber land means the land only.

3 (4) "Current" or "currently" means as of the date on which property
4 is to be listed and valued by the county assessor.

5 (5) "Owner" means the party or parties having the fee interest in
6 land, except that where land is subject to real estate contract "owner"
7 shall mean the contract vendee.

8 (6) "Contiguous" means land adjoining and touching other property
9 held by the same ownership. Land divided by a public road, but
10 otherwise an integral part of a farming operation, shall be considered
11 contiguous.