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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2561

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Fraser, Miller, Valle, Edmondson, Rayburn, McLean, Belcher, Basich, Haugen, Chandler, Wynne and Nealey; by request of Jnt Sel Com on Water Resource Policy)

Read first time 02/07/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to municipal water conservation programs; amending  
2 RCW 35.92.105; and adding new sections to chapter 36.94 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.92.105 and 1981 c 273 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 A city or town may issue revenue bonds ~~((or))~~, warrants, or other  
7 evidences of indebtedness in the manner provided by this chapter for  
8 the purpose of defraying the cost of financing programs for the  
9 conservation or more efficient use of energy or water. The bonds  
10 ~~((or))~~, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness shall be deemed to  
11 be for capital purposes within the meaning of the uniform system of  
12 accounts for municipal corporations.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 36.94 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        A county engaged in the sale or distribution of water may issue  
4 revenue bonds, or other evidence of indebtedness in the manner provided  
5 by this chapter for the purpose of defraying the cost of financing  
6 programs for the conservation or more efficient use of water.    The  
7 bonds or other evidence of indebtedness shall be deemed to be for  
8 capital purposes.

9        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 36.94 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11        Any county engaged in the sale or distribution of water is hereby  
12 authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state  
13 of Washington, to assist the owners of structures that are provided  
14 water service by the county in financing the acquisition and  
15 installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or  
16 otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the  
17 structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the county if the  
18 cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures,  
19 systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied  
20 by the next least costly new water source available to the county to  
21 meet future demand.    Except where otherwise authorized, assistance  
22 shall be limited to:

23        (1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or  
24 through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform  
25 the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing  
26 conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial  
27 assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the  
28 water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the  
29 installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

1           (2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and install the  
2 fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the  
3 service area of the county, each of which businesses shall have  
4 requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the  
5 products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems,  
6 and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

7           (3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and  
8 equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to  
9 the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

10          (4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and  
11 installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment.  
12 The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by  
13 a private business, the owner, or the utility.

14          Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the  
15 utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately.  
16 Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length.