

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1395

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As Reported By House Committee On:  
Human Services

**Title:** An act relating to marriage license fees for funding family services.

**Brief Description:** Allowing counties to impose additional marriage license fees for funding family services.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Scott, Long, G. Cole, Riley, Johanson, Leonard, Ogden, King and Locke.

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Human Services, February 17, 1993, DP.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 8 members: Representatives Leonard, Chair; Riley, Vice Chair; Talcott, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Brown; Karahalios; Patterson; Thibaudeau; and Wolfe.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass. Signed by 3 members: Representatives Cooke, Ranking Minority Member; Lisk; and Padden.

**Staff:** John Welsh (786-7133).

**Background:** Currently the fees for processing applications for marriage licenses are established by law. The basic fee is \$8, plus an additional fee of \$5 for use and support for the prevention of child abuse and neglect activities, expiring June 30, 1995, plus an additional \$10 fee for the purposes of the Displaced Homemaker Act. Counties may also charge \$8 for funding the family court.

However, there is no authority granted to county legislative authorities to add an additional fee to a marriage license for the purpose of funding family services.

**Summary of Bill:** County legislative authorities may establish an additional fee for a marriage license, not exceeding \$15, to fund family services, such as family support centers.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** Counties should have the ability to raise additional revenue to fund needed family support services.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Witnesses:** Dianne Shiver, Family Support Center; Liz McLaughlin, Snohomish County Council; Robbie Rohr, Family Support Center; and Laurie Lippold, Children's Home Society.