

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1395

As Reported By House Committee On:
Human Services
Revenue

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;
Revenue, March 8, 1993, DP.

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.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 13 members: Representatives G. Fisher, Chair; Holm, Vice Chair; Foreman, Ranking Minority Member; Anderson; Brown; Cothorn; Morris; Romero; Rust; Silver; Talcott; Thibaudeau; and Wang.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 2 members: Representatives Fuhrman, Assistant Ranking Minority Member and Van Luven.

Staff: Rick Peterson (786-7150).

Summary of Recommendation of Committee on Revenue Compared to Recommendation of Committee on Human Services: No new changes were recommended.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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

Testimony For: This bill would provide a secure financial base for the family service supporters. We need to involve the community in the funding of these services; this bill would accomplish that.

Testimony Against: None.

Witnesses: Roseann Martinez, United Way of Snohomish County; Laurie Lippold, Children's Home Society; Ed Larson, Snohomish County; and Kurt Sherar, Washington State Association of Counties.