

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SB 5675

As Passed Legislature

Title: An act relating to financing debt for storm water control facilities.

Brief Description: Concerning the financing of bonds for storm water facilities.

Sponsors: Senators Drew, Loveland, Skratek and Haugen.

Brief History:

Reported by House Committee on:
Local Government, March 25, 1993, DPA;
Passed House - Amended, April 12, 1993, 89-2;
Conference Committee Report Adopted;
Passed Legislature, April 25, 1993, 98-0.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Majority Report: Do pass as amended. Signed by 11 members: Representatives H. Myers, Chair; Bray, Vice Chair; Edmondson, Ranking Minority Member; Reams, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Dunshee; R. Fisher; Horn; Rayburn; Romero; Van Luven; and Zellinsky.

Staff: Steve Lundin (786-7127).

Background: Counties are authorized to install storm water control facilities under two separate chapters of law. Under both chapters of law, a county may impose rates or charges to finance storm water control facilities and issue revenue bonds payable from these rates or charges. Counties are also authorized to issue general obligation bonds to finance storm water control facilities.

The authority of a county to provide storm water control facilities is not expressly limited to only unincorporated areas outside of cities and towns.

Summary of Bill: Both chapters of law authorizing counties to create storm water utilities are amended to permit the continued collection of a portion of the service charges or rates on land annexed by a city or town, or incorporated into a city or town, that is allocated to debt service payments on either revenue bonds or general obligation bonds payable from the service charges or rates. This requirement

applies even if the facilities that are financed by the bonds are not located in the area that is annexed.

The service charges or rates remain on the annexed or incorporated area until the bonds are retired, refinancing bonds are retired, or the city or town reimburses an amount to the county that is sufficient to retire the portion of the debt borne by the annexed or incorporated area.

A county must construct the storm water facilities that are described in its storm water plan that are financed by the bonds.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

Testimony For: There is concern that if an unincorporated area is annexed or incorporated, the county's authority to collect service charges in the area to make debt payments on bonds issued for capital improvements would be eliminated. This clarifies the matter.

Testimony Against: None.

Witnesses: (pro): Senator Drew, prime sponsor; Robin Appleford and Debbie Arimia, King County Council; and Stan Finkelstein, Association of Washington Cities (support with amendments).