

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1395

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As Passed House  
March 11, 1993

**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;  
Passed House, March 11, 1993, 75-23.

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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).

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### 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).

**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:** (Human Services) Counties should have the ability to raise additional revenue to fund needed family support services.

(Revenue) 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:** (Human Services) None.

(Revenue) None.

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

(Revenue) 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.