

SENATE BILL REPORT

SHB 2220

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
FEBRUARY 21, 1994

Brief Description: Appointing commissioners for housing authorities.

SPONSORS: House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Wolfe, Brumsickle, Ogden and H. Myers)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chairman; Loveland, McCaslin, Oke and Winsley.

Staff: Eugene Green (786-7405)

Hearing Dates: February 21, 1994

BACKGROUND:

An inactive housing authority exists in every county, city and town, which can be activated if the county, city or town governing body adopts a resolution declaring the need for the housing authority and making certain findings.

Housing authorities construct, acquire and operate housing projects for low-income persons and administer contracts for housing assistance payments to low-income persons under federal laws. Housing authorities may issue revenue bonds to finance their projects but may not issue general obligation bonds or impose taxes.

The governing body of a housing authority is a five-member board of commissioners appointed by the mayor of the city or town, or county legislative authority, to staggered five-year terms of office. A housing authority commissioner may not be an officer or employee of the county, city or town that activated the housing authority.

SUMMARY:

Restrictions on the designation of housing authority commissioners are altered. One commissioner in a housing authority of a county with a population of 175,000 or less, as of the 1990 federal census, is allowed to be an employee of a separately elected official of the county, other than the governing body.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: none requested

TESTIMONY FOR:

This will give the non-urban counties some badly needed flexibility.

TESTIMONY AGAINST: None

TESTIFIED: Chris Lowell, Thurston County Housing Authority (pro);
Mike Sivia, Seattle Housing Authority (pro)