

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**SB 5284**

**AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,  
FEBRUARY 9, 1993**

**Brief Description:** Authorizing city councilmembers to serve as reserve police officers.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Haugen and McAuliffe

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5284 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chairman; Drew, Vice Chairman; Loveland, Oke, Owen, von Reichbauer, and Winsley.

**Staff:** Eugene Green (786-7405)

**Hearing Dates:** February 5, 1993; February 9, 1993

**BACKGROUND:**

The legislative body of any city or town may, by unanimous vote, authorize any of its members to serve as volunteer firemen and to receive any compensation, insurance or other benefits available to such volunteers.

It would be consistent to extend the scope of this authority to allow members to also serve as reserve law enforcement officers. The term "firemen" should be updated to "firefighters".

**SUMMARY:**

The legislative body of any city or town may, by unanimous vote, authorize any of its members to serve as volunteer firefighters or reserve law enforcement officers. Such members will receive the same compensation, insurance and other benefits received by other volunteer firefighters or reserve law enforcement officers employed by the city or town.

**EFFECT OF PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE:**

The substitute bill allows the authorization by a two-thirds vote rather than by unanimous vote.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested

**TESTIMONY FOR:**

Especially in small cities and towns, flexibility is needed to utilize all available citizenry.

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** Colleen Johnson, Snoqualmie City Council (pro); Kathrin Osborne, Snoqualmie Parent Committee (pro); Reta Lessard (pro); Stan Finkelstein, AWC (pro)