

2 **SB 6608** - S AMD - 675
3 By Senators Kline and Thibaudeau

4 NOT ADOPTED 2/16/98

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 35.22.370 and 1965 c 7 s 35.22.370 are each amended
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Notwithstanding that the charter of a city of the first class
10 may forbid the city council from redividing the city into wards except
11 at stated periods, if the city has failed to redivide the city into
12 wards during any such period, the city council by ordinance may do so
13 at any time thereafter: PROVIDED, That there shall not be more than
14 one redivision into wards during any one period specified in the
15 charter.

16 (2) Any first class city with a population of more than four
17 hundred thousand persons may have a city council with nine members, six
18 of whom may be elected from districts with each of the six elected from
19 one of six districts, and three of whom may be elected at large. For
20 any city that chooses this option, the following requirements apply:

21 (a) The council shall by ordinance create a commission to divide
22 the city into six districts and fix the boundaries of the districts.
23 The council shall change the district boundaries from time to time and
24 as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. No change in the boundaries of any
25 district may be made within one hundred twenty days next before the
26 date of a general municipal election, nor within twenty months after
27 the districts have been established or altered. However, if a boundary
28 change results in one district being represented by more councilmembers
29 than the number to which it is entitled, those having the shortest
30 unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to districts where
31 there are vacancies, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed
32 to be residents of the districts to which they are assigned for
33 purposes of determining whether those positions are vacant.

34 (b) Districts shall be used as follows: (i) Only a resident of the
35 district may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of
36 the district; and (ii) only voters of the district may vote at a

1 primary to nominate candidates for councilmember of the district, and
2 only voters of the district may vote at the general election to elect
3 a councilmember of the district. The three at-large positions shall
4 not be associated with a district and the persons elected may reside
5 anywhere in the city. Voters throughout the city may vote at a primary
6 to nominate candidates for the at-large positions, when a primary is
7 necessary, and at a general election to elect persons to the at-large
8 positions.

9 (c) Additional territory that is added to the city shall, by act of
10 the council, be annexed to contiguous districts without affecting the
11 right to redistrict at the expiration of twenty months after the last
12 previous division. The removal of a councilmember from the district
13 for which he or she was elected shall create a vacancy in such office."

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17 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "thousand;" strike the
18 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 35.22.370."

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