

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1676

As Passed House

March 11, 1997

Title: An act relating to the residency of the county road engineer.

Brief Description: Removing residency requirements for county road engineers.

Sponsors: By House Committee on Transportation Policy & Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives O'Brien, Skinner, K. Schmidt, Fisher, Ogden and Gardner; by request of County Road Administration Board).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Transportation Policy & Budget: 2/27/97, 3/3/97 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 3/11/97, 95-2.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION POLICY & BUDGET

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 24 members: Representatives K. Schmidt, Chairman; Hankins, Vice Chairman; Mielke, Vice Chairman; Mitchell, Vice Chairman; Fisher, Ranking Minority Member; Blalock, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Cooper, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Backlund; Buck; Cairnes; Constantine; Gardner; Hatfield; Johnson; Murray; O'Brien; Ogden; Radcliff; Robertson; Scott; Skinner; Sterk; Wood and Zellinsky.

Staff: Gary Lebow (786-7304).

Background: The county legislative authority of each county with a population of 8,000 or more must employ a full-time county road engineer who resides in the county. The county legislative authority of each county with a population of less than 8,000 (Ferry, Columbia, Wahkiakum, Garfield) must employ a county engineer on either a full-time or part-time basis who need not be a resident of the county, or may contract with another county for the services of a county road engineer.

Summary of Bill: The requirement that the full-time county road engineer of each county with a population of 8,000 or more must reside in the county is eliminated.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

Testimony For: This gives counties the choice of whether they want the county road engineer to live within the county. It also allows people to consider the job without having to make a decision about whether or not to uproot their family and move what may amount to a few miles into another county.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Peter Hahn, Snohomish County; and Eric Berger, County Road Administration Board.