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HOUSE BILL 2353

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Wensman, D. Schmidt, Scott, Gardner, Hatfield and Anderson

Prefiled 01/08/98. Read first time 01/12/98. Referred to Committee on Government Administration.

1 AN ACT Relating to local government fiscal notes; amending RCW  
2 43.132.020, 43.132.040, and 43.132.060; and adding a new section to  
3 chapter 43.132 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.132.020 and 1995 c 399 s 79 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 The director of financial management or the director's designee  
8 shall, in cooperation with appropriate legislative committees and  
9 legislative staff, establish a mechanism for the determination of the  
10 fiscal impact of proposed legislation which if enacted into law would  
11 directly or indirectly increase or decrease revenues received or  
12 expenditures incurred by counties, cities, towns, or any other  
13 (~~political subdivisions of the state~~) units of a local government.  
14 The office of financial management shall, when requested by a member of  
15 the state legislature, report in writing as to such fiscal impact and  
16 said report shall be known as a "fiscal note".

17 Such fiscal notes shall indicate by fiscal year the total impact on  
18 the (~~subdivisions~~) local governments involved for the first two years  
19 the legislation would be in effect and also a cumulative six year

1 forecast of the fiscal impact. Where feasible and applicable, the  
2 fiscal note also shall indicate the fiscal impact on each individual  
3 county or on a representative sampling of cities, towns, or other  
4 (~~political subdivisions~~) units of local government.

5 A fiscal note as defined in this section shall be provided only  
6 upon request of (~~any member of the state legislature~~) the chairperson  
7 or ranking minority member of the local government committee, or  
8 equivalent committee that considers local government matters, of the  
9 senate or house of representatives. A (~~legislator also may~~) request  
10 (~~that such~~) for a fiscal note (~~be revised to reflect the impact of~~  
11 proposed amendments or substitute bills) on legislation shall be  
12 considered to be a continuing request for a fiscal note on any formal  
13 alteration of the legislation in the form of amendments to the  
14 legislation that are adopted by a committee or a house of the  
15 legislature or a substitute version of such legislation that is adopted  
16 by a committee, unless the legislator requesting the fiscal note  
17 specifies otherwise or the altered version is first adopted or enacted  
18 in the last week of a legislative session.

19 Fiscal notes shall be completed within (~~seventy-two hours~~) one  
20 week of the request unless a longer time period is allowed by the  
21 requesting legislator. In the event a fiscal note has not been  
22 completed within (~~seventy-two hours~~) one week of a request, a daily  
23 report shall be prepared for the requesting legislator by the director  
24 of financial management which report summarizes the progress in  
25 preparing the fiscal note. If the request is referred to the director  
26 of community, trade, and economic development, the daily report shall  
27 also include the date and time such referral was made.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.132.040 and 1986 c 158 s 18 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 When a fiscal note is prepared and approved as to form and  
31 completeness by the director of financial management, the director  
32 shall transmit copies immediately to:

33 (1) The requesting legislator;

34 (2) With respect to proposed legislation held by the senate, the  
35 chairperson of the committee which holds or has acted upon the proposed  
36 legislation, the chairperson of the ways and means committee or  
37 equivalent committees with jurisdiction over matters normally  
38 considered by a ways and means committee, the chairperson of the local

1 government committee or equivalent committee that considers local  
2 government matters, and the secretary of the senate; and

3 (3) With respect to proposed legislation held by the house of  
4 representatives, the chairperson of the committee which holds or has  
5 acted upon the proposed legislation, the chairpersons of the (~~revenue~~  
6 ~~and taxation and appropriations committees~~) ways and means committee  
7 or equivalent committees with jurisdiction over matters normally  
8 considered by a ways and means committee, the chairperson of the local  
9 government committee or equivalent committee that considers local  
10 government matters, and the chief clerk of the house of  
11 representatives.

12 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.132.060 and 1977 ex.s. c 19 s 6 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (1) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent either house of the  
15 legislature from acting on any bill or resolution before it as  
16 otherwise provided by the state Constitution, by law, and by the rules  
17 of the senate and house of representatives, nor shall the lack of any  
18 fiscal note as provided in this chapter or any error in the accuracy  
19 thereof affect the validity of any measure otherwise duly passed by the  
20 legislature.

21 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not alter the  
22 responsibilities of RCW 43.135.060.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.132 RCW  
24 to read as follows:

25 The chairperson or ranking minority member of the local government  
26 committee, or equivalent committee that considers local government  
27 matters, of the senate or house of representatives may request the  
28 office of financial management, or the department of community, trade,  
29 and economic development if designated by the director of financial  
30 management to prepare local government fiscal notes, to prepare a  
31 report on the fiscal impacts on counties, cities, towns, and other  
32 units of local government that have arisen from any legislation enacted  
33 within the last five years. The report shall be prepared and treated  
34 in the manner as a fiscal note.

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