

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 1539

55th Legislature
1997 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 11, 1997
Yeas 97 Nays 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 10, 1997
Yeas 46 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1539** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 1539

Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Honeyford, Fisher, Schoesler and Sheldon

Read first time 01/30/97. Referred to Committee on Government Administration.

1 AN ACT Relating to fire district associations; and amending RCW
2 52.12.031.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 52.12.031 and 1995 c 369 s 65 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Any fire protection district organized under this title may:

7 (1) Lease, acquire, own, maintain, operate, and provide fire and
8 emergency medical apparatus and all other necessary or proper
9 facilities, machinery, and equipment for the prevention and suppression
10 of fires, the providing of emergency medical services and the
11 protection of life and property;

12 (2) Lease, acquire, own, maintain, and operate real property,
13 improvements, and fixtures for housing, repairing, and maintaining the
14 apparatus, facilities, machinery, and equipment described in subsection
15 (1) of this section;

16 (3) Contract with any governmental entity under chapter 39.34 RCW
17 or private person or entity to consolidate, provide, or cooperate for
18 fire prevention protection, fire suppression, investigation, and
19 emergency medical purposes. In so contracting, the district or

1 governmental entity is deemed for all purposes to be acting within its
2 governmental capacity. This contracting authority includes the
3 furnishing of fire prevention, fire suppression, investigation,
4 emergency medical services, facilities, and equipment to or by the
5 district, governmental entity, or private person or entity;

6 (4) Encourage uniformity and coordination of fire protection
7 district operations. The fire commissioners of fire protection
8 districts may form an association to secure information of value in
9 suppressing and preventing fires and other district purposes, to hold
10 and attend meetings, and to promote more economical and efficient
11 operation of the associated fire protection districts. The
12 commissioners of fire protection districts in the association shall
13 adopt articles of association as a municipal corporation or articles of
14 incorporation for a nonprofit corporation, select a chairman,
15 secretary, and other officers as they may determine, and may employ and
16 discharge agents and employees as the officers deem convenient to carry
17 out the purposes of the association. The expenses of the association
18 may be paid from funds paid into the association by fire protection
19 districts: PROVIDED, That the aggregate contributions made to the
20 association by a district in a calendar year shall not exceed two and
21 one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation;

22 (5) Enter into contracts to provide group life insurance for the
23 benefit of the personnel of the fire districts;

24 (6) Perform building and property inspections that the district
25 deems necessary to provide fire prevention services and pre-fire
26 planning within the district and any area that the district serves by
27 contract in accordance with RCW 19.27.110: PROVIDED, That codes used
28 by the district for building and property inspections shall be limited
29 to the applicable codes adopted by the state, county, city, or town
30 that has jurisdiction over the area in which the property is located.
31 A copy of inspection reports prepared by the district shall be
32 furnished by the district to the appropriate state, county, city, or
33 town that has jurisdiction over the area in which the property is
34 located: PROVIDED, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed
35 to grant code enforcement authority to a district. This subsection
36 shall not be construed as imposing liability on any governmental
37 jurisdiction;

38 (7) Determine the origin and cause of fires occurring within the
39 district and any area the district serves by contract. In exercising

1 the authority conferred by this subsection, the fire protection
2 district and its authorized representatives shall comply with the
3 provisions of RCW 48.48.060;

4 (8) Perform acts consistent with this title and not otherwise
5 prohibited by law.

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