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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2477**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives D. Schmidt, Scott, Esser, Mielke, Mulliken, Fisher, O'Brien, Edwards, Doumit, Kastama, Ruderman, Linville, Romero, Lantz, Edmonds, Kenney and Van Luven)

Read first time 02/02/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to funding the municipal research council; amending  
2 RCW 66.08.190 and 43.110.030; adding a new section to chapter 43.110  
3 RCW; repealing RCW 43.88.114; providing an effective date; and  
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.110 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 The city and town research services account is created in the state  
9 treasury. Moneys in the account shall consist of amounts transferred  
10 under RCW 66.08.190(2) and any other transfers or appropriations to the  
11 account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after an  
12 appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for city  
13 and town research.

14 Unobligated moneys remaining in the account at the end of the  
15 fiscal biennium shall be distributed by the treasurer to the  
16 incorporated cities and towns of the state under RCW 66.08.190(1)(b).

17 The treasurer may disburse amounts appropriated to the municipal  
18 research council from the city and town research services account by  
19 warrant or check to the contracting parties on invoices or vouchers

1 certified by the chair of the municipal research council or his or her  
2 designee. Payments to public agencies may be made in advance of actual  
3 work contracted for, at the discretion of the council.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 66.08.190 and 1995 c 159 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) When excess funds are distributed, all moneys subject to  
7 distribution shall be disbursed as follows:

8 ~~((1))~~ (a) Three-tenths of one percent to border areas under RCW  
9 66.08.195; and

10 ~~((2))~~ (b) From the amount remaining after distribution under (a)  
11 of this subsection ~~((1) of this section)~~, fifty percent to the  
12 general fund of the state, ten percent to the counties of the state,  
13 and forty percent to the incorporated cities and towns of the state.

14 (2) During the months of July, October, January, and April of each  
15 year, prior to disbursing the distribution to incorporated cities and  
16 towns under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the treasurer shall  
17 deduct from that distribution an amount that, when combined with any  
18 cash balance in the city and town research services account, will fund  
19 that quarter's allotments under RCW 43.88.110 from any legislative  
20 appropriation from the city and town research services account. The  
21 treasurer shall deposit the amount deducted into the city and town  
22 research services account.

23 (3) The governor may notify and direct the state treasurer to  
24 withhold the revenues to which the counties and cities are entitled  
25 under this section if the counties or cities are found to be in  
26 noncompliance pursuant to RCW 36.70A.340.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.110.030 and 1997 c 437 s 2 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 The municipal research council shall contract for the provision of  
30 municipal research and services to cities, towns, and counties.  
31 Contracts for municipal research and services shall be made with state  
32 agencies, educational institutions, or private consulting firms, that  
33 in the judgment of council members are qualified to provide such  
34 research and services. Contracts for staff support may be made with  
35 state agencies, educational institutions, or private consulting firms  
36 that in the judgment of the council members are qualified to provide  
37 such support.

1 Municipal research and services shall consist of: (1) Studying and  
2 researching city, town, and county government and issues relating to  
3 city, town, and county government; (2) acquiring, preparing, and  
4 distributing publications related to city, town, and county government  
5 and issues relating to city, town, and county government; (3) providing  
6 educational conferences relating to city, town, and county government  
7 and issues relating to city, town, and county government; and (4)  
8 furnishing legal, technical, consultative, and field services to  
9 cities, towns, and counties concerning planning, public health, utility  
10 services, fire protection, law enforcement, public works, and other  
11 issues relating to city, town, and county government. Requests for  
12 legal services by county officials shall be sent to the office of the  
13 county prosecuting attorney. Responses by the municipal research  
14 council to county requests for legal services shall be provided to the  
15 requesting official and the county prosecuting attorney.

16 The activities, programs, and services of the municipal research  
17 council shall be carried on(~~(, and all expenditures shall be made,)~~) in  
18 cooperation with (~~(the cities and towns of the state acting through the~~  
19 ~~board of directors of)~~) the association of Washington cities(~~(, which~~  
20 ~~is recognized as their official agency or instrumentality,)~~) and (~~(in~~  
21 ~~cooperation with counties of the state acting through)~~) the Washington  
22 state association of counties. Services to cities and towns shall be  
23 based upon the moneys appropriated to the municipal research council  
24 (~~(under RCW 82.44.160)~~) from the city and town research services  
25 account under section 1 of this act. Services to counties shall be  
26 based upon the moneys appropriated to the municipal research council  
27 from the county research services account under RCW 43.110.050.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. RCW 43.88.114 (Appropriations to municipal  
29 research council from motor vehicle excise taxes not subject to  
30 allotment) and 1997 c 437 s 5 & 1983 c 22 s 2 are each repealed.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate  
32 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
33 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
34 July 1, 2000.

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