

1345-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Cooper, Haigh, Simpson, Dunshee and Ericksen)

Brief Description: Creating regional fire protection service authorities.

HB 1345-S - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 2ND SUB)

Finds that: (1) The ability to respond to emergency situations by many of Washington state's fire protection jurisdictions have not kept up with the state's needs, particularly in urban regions;

(2) Providing a fire protection service system requires a shared partnership and responsibility between the federal, state, local, and regional governments and the private sector;

(3) There are efficiencies to be gained by regional fire protection service delivery while retaining local control; and

(4) Timely development of significant projects can best be achieved through enhanced funding options for regional fire protection service agencies, using already existing tax authority to address fire protection emergency service needs and new authority to address critical fire protection projects and emergency services.