
HOUSE BILL 2802

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson, Angel, Clibborn, Eddy, and Wallace

Read first time 01/14/10. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to the review of the local government fiscal note
2 program; adding a new section to chapter 43.330 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Actions taken by the legislature on a wide
6 variety of issues have the ability to dramatically and subtly impact
7 local governments. Often the legislature has insufficient information
8 to gauge the potential burden proposed legislation may have on our
9 local governments. A better understanding of the fiscal impacts of
10 state legislation will enhance the formulation of policies, especially
11 considering the challenges of the current budget crisis. The
12 legislature finds that there is a need to improve the process of how
13 local government fiscal notes are prepared and requests a comprehensive
14 review of the current process and an assessment of potential options to
15 increase performance.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 The department, in consultation with local governments and the

1 legislature, shall review the local government fiscal note program
2 under chapter 43.132 RCW by analyzing similar programs in other states,
3 studying and evaluating processes and procedures of the program, and
4 examining practices for communication between the program and local
5 governments, the office of financial management, and the legislature.
6 The department must report findings and recommendations to the
7 legislative evaluation and accountability program committee by November
8 1, 2010. The report must identify effective practices for determining
9 local fiscal impact and provide recommendations to (1) improve
10 communications between the program and local governments, the office of
11 financial management, and the legislature; (2) prioritize requests for
12 local government fiscal notes that facilitate the process and provide
13 consistency and timeliness; (3) facilitate communication of local
14 government fiscal impact information and responding to requests in a
15 timely manner; and (4) retain qualified staff.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
17 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
18 June 30, 2010, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
19 void.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 2 of this act expires November 1,
21 2011.

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