
HOUSE BILL 1428

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson, Taylor, and Rodne

Read first time 01/21/11. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a land use planning for jobs
2 legislative task force; creating new sections; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The growth management act requires local
6 governments to adopt comprehensive plans and development regulations
7 that balance the fourteen goals underpinning the act. Among these
8 goals are requirements that applications for both state and local
9 government permits should be processed in a timely and fair manner to
10 ensure predictability. The goals also specify that adopted plans
11 should encourage economic development throughout the state by promoting
12 the retention and expansion of existing businesses and by recruiting
13 new businesses.

14 These vital goals have not been equally and sufficiently provided
15 for, in part, because of conflicting, duplicative, and bureaucratic
16 permit requirements under the growth management act, the shoreline
17 management act, and the state environmental policy act.

18 The legislature finds there is a need to identify the duplicative,
19 conflicting, and unduly burdensome elements of the permitting processes

1 required by these three acts. The legislature also finds that there is
2 a need to make recommendations to eliminate these duplications,
3 conflicts, and burdensome elements for the purposes of streamlining
4 permitting processes and fostering economic development and new jobs in
5 the state.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) The "land use planning for jobs
7 legislative task force" is established, with voting members appointed
8 as provided in this subsection.

9 (i) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
10 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
11 representatives.

12 (ii) The president of the senate shall appoint one voting member
13 from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

14 (iii) The legislative leaders of the two largest political parties
15 in each house of the legislature shall jointly appoint the following
16 voting members:

17 (A) Two members representing local governments with fewer than
18 fifty thousand residents and two members representing local governments
19 with fifty thousand or more residents. From among these four members,
20 there shall be representation from the following regions of Washington
21 state: Northeast; northwest; southeast; and southwest;

22 (B) One member from and representing the planning community;

23 (C) One member from and representing the business community;

24 (D) One member from and representing the building industry;

25 (E) One member from and representing the agricultural community;

26 and

27 (F) One member from and representing the environmental community.

28 (b) The directors of the departments of ecology and commerce may
29 each appoint one nonvoting representative to participate in the task
30 force.

31 (c) The task force's cochairs shall be the senator affiliated with
32 the democratic caucus and the representative affiliated with the
33 republican caucus. The representative affiliated with the republican
34 caucus shall convene the initial meeting of the task force by August
35 15, 2011.

36 (2) The task force shall identify duplicative, conflicting, and
37 unduly burdensome aspects of land use and development regulations

1 required by laws and regulations enacted pursuant to the growth
2 management act, chapter 36.70A RCW, the shoreline management act,
3 chapter 90.58 RCW, and the state environmental policy act, chapter
4 43.21C RCW. The task force shall also make recommendations to assist
5 state and local authorities in streamlining the permitting requirements
6 of the three acts into one uniform process that ensures that
7 communities preserve public safety and have the necessary
8 infrastructure for economic development that is free from
9 inappropriately burdensome requirements.

10 (3)(a) The task force shall, at a minimum, review and make findings
11 and recommendations regarding:

12 (i) A uniform permit application process to simultaneously address
13 all environmental issues under the shoreline management act, critical
14 areas ordinances adopted under the growth management act, and the state
15 environmental policy act, eliminating any conflicts or duplicative
16 requirements;

17 (ii) Other measures that would help local authorities address
18 concerns raised by citizens desiring to build infrastructure that
19 creates sustainable and long-term economic opportunities for
20 communities; and

21 (iii) Other matters identified by a consensus of the voting members
22 of the task force.

23 (b) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
24 the governor and the appropriate committees of the house of
25 representatives and senate by July 15, 2012.

26 (c) Findings and recommendations of the task force must be
27 determined by consensus of the voting members of the task force. A
28 draft version of the findings and recommendations shall be made
29 available to the public prior to being submitted to the governor and
30 the legislature, and the task force shall accept public testimony
31 regarding its draft findings and recommendations.

32 (4) Task force meetings shall be open to the public. The task
33 force must, subject to expenditure approvals required in subsection (7)
34 of this section, provide opportunities for members and the public to
35 listen to the proceedings telephonically or through other available
36 technologies.

37 (5) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the senate

1 committee services and the house of representatives office of program
2 research.

3 (6) Legislative members of the task force must be reimbursed for
4 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
5 members are not eligible for travel reimbursements unless funding for
6 those reimbursements, referencing this act by bill or chapter number,
7 is provided by June 30, 2011, in the omnibus appropriations act.

8 (7) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
9 house of representatives and the senate. Task force expenditures are
10 subject to approval by the house of representatives executive rules
11 committee and the senate facilities and operations committee, or their
12 successor committees.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act may be known and cited as the
14 planning for jobs act of 2011.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act expire
16 December 31, 2012.

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