

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1738

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Governmental Operations, April 1, 2013

Title: An act relating to authorized purchases by political subdivisions.

Brief Description: Authorizing political subdivisions to purchase certain technology and services from the United States government.

Sponsors: Representatives Hayes, Sells, Seaquist, Dunshee and Ryu.

Brief History: Passed House: 3/13/13, 95-2.

Committee Activity: Governmental Operations: 3/26/13, 4/01/13 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Roach, Chair; Benton, Vice Chair; Hasegawa, Ranking Member; Braun, Conway, Fraser and Rivers.

Staff: Sam Thompson (786-7413)

Background: Local governments must comply with procurement laws that generally mandate public competitive bidding for large purchases. However, a local government may purchase supplies, materials, and equipment from or through the United States government without calling for bids. The local government's legislative authority must authorize this purchasing by ordinance or resolution. A federal agency maintains a list of products and services available for purchase at bulk rates by authorized purchasers.

Summary of Bill: In addition to supplies, materials, and equipment, local governments may purchase electronic data processing and telecommunication equipment, software, and services from or through the United States government.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This bill provides local governments with clear authority to purchase data processing and telecommunications equipment, software, and services from the U.S. government. It updates language enacted almost 70 years ago to conform to current U.S. General Services Administration schedules.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Representative Hayes, prime sponsor; Briahna Taylor, Snohomish County.