
HOUSE BILL 1848

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer, Lytton, Moeller, Maxwell, Sullivan, Haigh, Goodman, Orwall, Pettigrew, Magendanz, Dahlquist, Hargrove, Fagan, Pike, Harris, Wilcox, Hayes, Smith, and Buys

Read first time 02/12/13. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to school siting; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 36.70A RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW
7 36.70A.040 shall permit schools outside of urban growth areas when the
8 following criteria are met:

9 (a) The school is needed to meet student capacity needs in an
10 identified service area which serves students residing in whole or in
11 part outside of an urban growth area, as demonstrated by a capital
12 facilities plan adopted by a locally elected school board of directors;

13 (b) An inventory of developable land has been conducted and
14 findings have been made that vacant land suitable to site the school is
15 unavailable within the urban growth boundary and relevant service area,
16 taking into consideration school service area needs, locally adopted
17 educational program requirements, and, to the extent there is vacant
18 land available within the urban growth boundary, the current zoning and
19 the financial feasibility of using public dollars to secure such land;

1 (c) New infrastructure is provided for and impact fees, if
2 applicable, are established consistent with the requirements of RCW
3 82.02.050;

4 (d) Transit-oriented site planning and traffic demand management
5 programs are implemented;

6 (e) Buffers are provided between the school development and
7 adjacent nonurban uses;

8 (f) Environmental protection has been addressed and provided for;

9 (g) Development regulations are established to ensure urban growth
10 will not occur in adjacent nonurban areas;

11 (h) Provision is made to mitigate impacts on designated
12 agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands if the
13 proposed site is located adjacent to such lands; and

14 (i) The plan for the new school is consistent with the development
15 regulations established for the protection of critical areas by the
16 county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170.

17 (2) Counties subject to this section shall ensure that:

18 (a) The comprehensive plan specifically identifies policies,
19 consistent with this section, to guide the development of schools
20 located outside of the urban growth boundary;

21 (b) The comprehensive plan and development regulations include
22 restrictions that preclude new urban or suburban land uses in the
23 vicinity of the new school, except in areas otherwise designated for
24 urban growth under RCW 36.70A.110;

25 (c) The county ensures that the school development plan is
26 consistent with the development regulations established for critical
27 areas; and

28 (d) On-site and off-site infrastructure and service impacts are
29 fully considered and mitigated.

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