S-0916.1				

## SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5013

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senate Governmental Operations (originally sponsored by Senator Benton) READ FIRST TIME 01/30/13.

- AN ACT Relating to annexations; amending RCW 35.10.217, 35.13.150,
- 2 35.13.180, 35.13.182, 35.13.185, 35.13.190, 35.13.210, 35.13.238,
- 3 35.13.470, 35.13.480, 35.13.490, 35.21.790, 35.21.890, 35A.14.295,
- 4 35A.14.297, 35A.14.299, 35A.14.300, 35A.14.310, 35A.14.460, 35A.14.470,
- 5 35A.14.480, 35A.14.490, and 35A.21.210; and repealing RCW 35.13.1821
- 6 and 35.13.1822.
- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.10.217 and 1986 c 253 s 1 are each amended to read 9 as follows:
- The following methods are available for the annexation of all or a part of a city or town to another city or town:
- 12 (1) A petition for an election to vote upon the annexation, which 13 proposed annexation is approved by the legislative body of the city or 14 town from which the territory will be taken, may be submitted to the
- 15 legislative body of the city or town to which annexation is proposed.
- 16 An annexation under this subsection shall otherwise conform with the
- 17 requirements for and procedures of a petition and election method of
- 18 annexing unincorporated territory under chapter 35.13 RCW((, except for

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the requirement for the approval of the annexation by the city or town from which the territory would be taken)).

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- (2) The legislative body of a city or town may on its own initiative by resolution indicate its desire to be annexed to a city or town either in whole or in part, or the legislative body of a city or town proposing to annex all or part of another city or town may initiate the annexation by adopting a resolution indicating that In case such resolution is passed, such resolution shall be transmitted to the other affected city or town. The annexation is effective if the other city or town adopts a resolution concurring in the annexation((, unless the owners of property in the area proposed to be annexed, equal in value to sixty percent or more of the assessed valuation of the property in the area, protest the proposed annexation in writing to the legislative body of the city or town proposing to annex the area, within thirty days of the adoption of the second resolution accepting the annexation)) and the registered voters of the area to be annexed approve the annexation by majority vote or written consent. Notices of the public hearing at which the second resolution is adopted shall be mailed to the owners of the property within the area proposed to be annexed in the same manner that notices of a hearing on a proposed local improvement district are required to be mailed by a city or town as provided in chapter 35.43 RCW. annexation under this subsection shall be potentially subject to review by a boundary review board or other annexation review board after the adoption of the initial resolution, and the second resolution may not be adopted until the proposed annexation has been approved by the board.
- (3) The owners of property located in a city or town may petition for annexation to another city or town. An annexation under this subsection shall conform with the requirements for and procedures of a direct petition method of annexing unincorporated territory, except that the legislative body of the city or town from which the territory would be taken must approve the annexation before it may proceed.
- (4) All annexations under this section are subject to potential review by the local boundary review board or annexation review board.
- 36 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.13.150 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 s 9 are each 37 amended to read as follows:

Following the hearing, the ((council or commission shall determine 1 2 by ordinance whether annexation shall be made)) question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at 3 least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held 4 within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose 5 according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as 6 provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as 7 provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed 8 contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the 9 voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the 10 annexation. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters 11 unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in 12 opposition to the annexation or unless less than a majority provide 13 14 their written consent to the annexation. Subject to RCW 35.02.170, ((they)) the council or commission may annex all or any portion of the 15 proposed area but may not include in the annexation any property not 16 17 described in the petition. Upon passage of the ordinance a certified copy shall be filed with the board of county commissioners of the 18 19 county in which the annexed property is located.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.13.180 and 1994 c 81 s 11 are each amended to read 21 as follows:

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City and town councils of second-class cities and towns may by a majority vote annex new unincorporated territory outside the city or town limits, whether contiguous or noncontiguous for park, cemetery, or other municipal purposes when such territory is owned by the city or town and at least a majority of the registered voters in the territory to be annexed give their written consent or all of the owners of the real property in the territory give their written consent to the annexation.

- Sec. 4. RCW 35.13.182 and 1998 c 286 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
- 32 (1) The legislative body of a city or town planning under chapter 33 36.70A RCW as of June 30, 1994, may resolve to annex territory to the 34 city or town if there is, within the city or town, unincorporated 35 territory containing residential property owners within the same county

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and within the same urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110 as the city or town:

- (a) Containing less than one hundred acres and having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of such area contiguous to the city or town; or
- (b) Of any size and having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of the area contiguous to the city if the area existed before June 30, 1994.
- (2) The resolution shall describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed, state the number of voters residing in the area as nearly as may be, and set a date for a public hearing on the resolution for annexation. Notice of the hearing shall be given by publication of the resolution at least once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city or town and one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area to be annexed.
- (3) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330.

  Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition to the annexation or unless less than a majority provide their written consent to the annexation.
- (4) For purposes of subsection (1)(b) of this section, territory bounded by a river, lake, or other body of water is considered contiguous to a city that is also bounded by the same river, lake, or other body of water.
- **Sec. 5.** RCW 35.13.185 and 1965 c 7 s 35.13.185 are each amended to read as follows:

Any unincorporated area contiguous to a first-class city may be annexed thereto by an ordinance accepting a gift, grant, lease or cession of jurisdiction from the government of the United States of the

- right to occupy or control it. At least a majority of the registered 1
- 2 voters in the unincorporated area to be annexed or at least a majority
- of the owners of the real property in the territory must give their 3
- written consent to the annexation. 4
- Sec. 6. RCW 35.13.190 and 1994 c 81 s 12 are each amended to read 5 6 as follows:

7 Any unincorporated area contiguous to a second-class city or town 8 may be annexed thereto by an ordinance accepting a gift, grant, or 9 lease from the government of the United States of the right to occupy, 10 control, improve it or sublet it for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes: PROVIDED, That this shall not apply to any 12 territory more than four miles from the corporate limits existing 13 before such annexation. At least a majority of the registered voters in the unincorporated area to be annexed or at least a majority of the 14

- owners of the real property in the territory must give their written 15
- 16 consent to the annexation.

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Sec. 7. RCW 35.13.210 and 1994 c 81 s 14 are each amended to read 17 18 as follows:

19 A second-class city or town may cause territory annexed pursuant to 20 a gift, grant, or lease of the government of the United States to be surveyed, subdivided and platted into lots, blocks, or tracts and lay 21 22 out, reserve for public use, and improve streets, roads, alleys, slips, 23 and other public places. It may grant or sublet any lot, block, or 24 tract therein for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes and 25 reserve, receive and collect rents therefrom. It may expend the rents 26 received therefrom in making and maintaining public improvements therein, and if any surplus remains at the end of any fiscal year, may 27 transfer it to the city's or town's current expense fund. At least a 28 29 majority of the registered voters or at least a majority of the owners of the real property in the territory must give their written consent 30 to the annexation. 31

- 32 **Sec. 8.** RCW 35.13.238 and 2009 c 60 s 7 are each amended to read 33 as follows:
- 34 (1)(a) An annexation by a city or town that is proposing to annex 35 territory served by one or more fire protection districts may be

accomplished by ordinance after entering into an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW with the county and the fire protection district or districts that have jurisdiction over the territory proposed for annexation.

- (b) A city or town proposing to annex territory shall initiate the interlocal agreement process by sending notice to the fire protection district representative and county representative stating the city's or town's interest to enter into an interlocal agreement negotiation process. The parties have forty-five days to respond in the affirmative or negative. A negative response must state the reasons the parties do not wish to participate in an interlocal agreement negotiation. A failure to respond within the forty-five day period is deemed an affirmative response and the interlocal agreement negotiation process may proceed. The interlocal agreement process may not proceed if any negative responses are received within the forty-five day period.
- (c) The interlocal agreement must describe the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation and must be consistent with the boundaries identified in an ordinance describing the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation and setting a date for a public hearing on the ordinance. If the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation are agreed to by all parties, a notice of intention must be filed with the boundary review board created under RCW 36.93.030. However, the jurisdiction of the board may not be invoked as described in RCW 36.93.100 for annexations that are the subject of such agreement.
- (2) An interlocal annexation agreement under this section must include the following:
- 29 (a) A statement of the goals of the agreement. Goals must include, 30 but are not limited to:
- 31 (i) The transfer of revenues and assets between the fire protection 32 districts and the city or town;
  - (ii) A consideration and discussion of the impact to the level of service of annexation on the unincorporated area, and an agreement that the impact on the ability of fire protection and emergency medical services within the incorporated area must not be negatively impacted at least through the budget cycle in which the annexation occurs;

- 1 (iii) A discussion with fire protection districts regarding the 2 division of assets and its impact to citizens inside and outside the 3 newly annexed area;
- 4 (iv) Community involvement, including an agreed upon schedule of public meetings in the area or areas proposed for annexation;
  - (v) Revenue sharing, if any;
  - (vi) Debt distribution;

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- 8 (vii) Capital facilities obligations of the city, county, and fire 9 protection districts;
- 10 (viii) An overall schedule or plan on the timing of any annexations 11 covered under this agreement; and
- 12 (ix) A description of which of the annexing cities' development 13 regulations will apply and be enforced in the area.
- 14 (b) The subject areas and policies and procedures the parties agree 15 to undertake in annexations. Subject areas may include, but are not 16 limited to:
  - (i) Roads and traffic impact mitigation;
  - (ii) Surface and storm water management;
- 19 (iii) Coordination and timing of comprehensive plan and development 20 regulation updates;
- 21 (iv) Outstanding bonds and special or improvement district 22 assessments;
  - (v) Annexation procedures;
- 24 (vi) Distribution of debt and revenue sharing for annexation 25 proposals, code enforcement, and inspection services;
  - (vii) Financial and administrative services; and
- (viii) Consultation with other service providers, including watersewer districts, if applicable.
- 29 (c) A term of at least five years, which may be extended by mutual 30 agreement of the city or town, the county, and the fire protection 31 district.
  - (3) If the fire protection district, annexing city or town, and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals or if only the annexing city or town and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals, the ((annexation ordinance may proceed and is not subject to referendum. If only the annexing city or town and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals, the city or town and county may proceed with annexation under the interlocal agreement, but the

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annexation ordinance provided for in this section is subject to referendum for forty-five days after its passage. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body of the city or town, signed by qualified electors in a number not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation must be submitted to the voters of the area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 35.13.080. Notice of the election must be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080, and the election must be conducted as provided in the general election laws under Title 29A RCW.)) guestion of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation. The annexation must be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition to the annexation or unless less than a majority provide their written consent to the annexation.

After the ((expiration of the forty-fifth day from, but excluding, the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if a timely and sufficient referendum petition has not been filed)) approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the area annexed becomes a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation.

- (4) If any portion of a fire protection district is proposed for annexation to or incorporation into a city or town, both the fire protection district and the city or town shall jointly inform the employees of the fire protection district about hires, separations, terminations, and any other changes in employment that are a direct consequence of annexation or incorporation at the earliest reasonable opportunity.
- (5) The needed employees shall be taken in order of seniority and the remaining employees who transfer as provided in this section and RCW 35.10.360 and 35.10.370 shall head the list for employment in the

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- civil service system in order of their seniority, to the end that they shall be the first to be reemployed in the city or town fire department when appropriate positions become available. Employees who are not immediately hired by the city or town shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period not to exceed thirty-six months unless a longer period is authorized by an agreement reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the annexing and annexed fire agencies and the annexing and annexed fire agencies.
  - (6)(a) Upon transfer, an employee is entitled to the employee rights, benefits, and privileges to which he or she would have been entitled as an employee of the fire protection district, including rights to:
  - (i) Compensation at least equal to the level of compensation at the time of transfer, unless the employee's rank and duties have been reduced as a result of the transfer. If the transferring employee is placed in a position with reduced rank and duties, the employee's compensation may be adjusted, but the adjustment may not result in a decrease of greater than fifty percent of the difference between the employee's compensation before the transfer and the compensation level for the position that the employee is transferred to;
- 21 (ii) Retirement, vacation, sick leave, and any other accrued 22 benefit;
  - (iii) Promotion and service time accrual; and

- (iv) The length or terms of probationary periods, including no requirement for an additional probationary period if one had been completed before the transfer date.
- (b) (a) of this subsection does not apply if upon transfer an agreement for different terms of transfer is reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the transferring employees and the participating fire protection jurisdictions.
- (7) If upon transfer, the transferring employee receives the rights, benefits, and privileges established under subsection (6)(a)(i) through (iv) of this section, those rights, benefits, and privileges are subject to collective bargaining at the end of the current bargaining period for the jurisdiction to which the employee has transferred.
  - (8) Such bargaining must take into account the years of service the

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- transferring employee accumulated before the transfer and must be treated as if those years of service occurred in the jurisdiction to which the employee has transferred.
  - Sec. 9. RCW 35.13.470 and 2003 c 299 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1) The legislative body of a county, city, or town planning under chapter 36.70A RCW and subject to the requirements of RCW 36.70A.215 may initiate an annexation process for unincorporated territory by adopting a resolution commencing negotiations for an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW between a county and any city or town within the county. The territory proposed for annexation must meet the following criteria: (a) Be within the city or town urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110, and (b) at least sixty percent of the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation must be contiguous to the annexing city or town or one or more cities or towns.
- (2) If the territory proposed for annexation has been designated in an adopted county comprehensive plan as part of an urban growth area, urban service area, or potential annexation area for a specific city or town, or if the urban growth area territory proposed for annexation has been designated in a written agreement between a city or town and a county for annexation to a specific city or town, the designation or designations shall receive full consideration before a city or county may initiate the annexation process provided for in RCW 35.13.480.
- (3) The agreement shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be annexed. A public hearing shall be held by each legislative body, separately or jointly, before the agreement is executed. Each legislative body holding a public hearing shall, separately or jointly, publish the agreement at least once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory proposed for annexation.
- (4) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330.

  Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election

law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.

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- (5) Following adoption and execution of the agreement by both legislative bodies and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the city or town legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation of the territory described in the agreement. ((The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory to be annexed. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice shall include a statement of the requirements.)) Any territory to be annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation((, which date may not be fewer than forty-five days after adoption of the ordinance)).
- 21 **Sec. 10.** RCW 35.13.480 and 2006 c 344 s 23 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
  - (1) The legislative body of any county planning under chapter 36.70A RCW and subject to the requirements of RCW 36.70A.215 may initiate an annexation process with the legislative body of any other cities or towns that are contiguous to the territory proposed for annexation in RCW 35.13.470 if:
  - (a) The county legislative body initiated an annexation process as provided in RCW 35.13.470; and
    - (b) The affected city or town legislative body adopted a responsive resolution rejecting the proposed annexation or declined to create the requested interlocal agreement with the county; or
    - (c) More than one hundred eighty days have passed since adoption of a county resolution as provided for in RCW 35.13.470 and the parties have not adopted or executed an interlocal agreement providing for the annexation of unincorporated territory. The legislative body for either the county or an affected city or town may, however, pass a

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resolution extending the negotiation period for one or more six-month periods if a public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each extension.

- (2) Any county initiating the process provided for in subsection (1) of this section must do so by adopting a resolution commencing negotiations for an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW between the county and any city or town within the county. The annexation area must be within an urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110 and at least sixty percent of the boundaries of the territory to be annexed must be contiguous to one or more cities or towns.
- (3) The agreement shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be annexed. A public hearing shall be held by each legislative body, separately or jointly, before the agreement is executed. Each legislative body holding a public hearing shall, separately or jointly, publish the agreement at least once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory proposed for annexation.
- (4) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.
- (5) Following adoption and execution of the agreement by both legislative bodies and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the city or town legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation. ((The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory to be annexed. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice

shall include a statement of the requirements. Any area to be annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation, which date may not be less than forty-five days after adoption of the ordinance.

(5) The annexation ordinances provided for in RCW 35.13.470(4) and subsection (4) of this section are subject to referendum for forty-five days after passage. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body, signed by registered voters in number equal to not less than fifteen percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto.

After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed,)) The area annexed shall become a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation.

(6) If more than one city or town adopts interlocal agreements providing for annexation of the same unincorporated territory as provided by this section, an election shall be held in the area to be annexed pursuant to RCW 35.13.070 and 35.13.080. In addition to the provisions of RCW 35.13.070 and 35.13.080, the ballot shall also contain a separate proposition allowing voters to cast votes in favor of annexation to any one city or town participating in an interlocal agreement as provided by this section. If a majority of voters voting on the proposition vote against annexation, the proposition is defeated. If, however, a majority of voters voting in the election approve annexation, the area shall be annexed to the city or town receiving the highest number of votes among those cast in favor of annexation.

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1 (7) Costs for an election required under subsection (6) of this 2 section shall be borne by the county.

- Sec. 11. RCW 35.13.490 and 2009 c 402 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) Territory owned by a county and used for an agricultural fair as provided in chapter 15.76 (( $\mathbb{RCW}$ )) or (( $\mathbb{CHapter}$ )) 36.37 RCW may only be annexed to a city or town through the method prescribed in this section.
- (a) The legislative body of the city or town proposing the annexation must submit a request for annexation and a legal description of the subject territory to the legislative authority of the county within which the territory is located.
- (b) Upon receipt of the request and description, the county legislative authority has thirty days to review the proposal and determine if the annexation proceedings will continue. As a condition of approval, the county legislative authority may modify the proposal, but it may not add territory that was not included in the request and description. Approval of the county legislative authority is a condition precedent to further proceedings upon the request and there is no appeal of the county legislative authority's decision.
- (c) If the county legislative authority determines that the proceedings may continue, it must, within thirty days of the determination, fix a date for a public hearing on the proposal, and cause notice of the hearing to be published at least once a week for two weeks prior to the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the territory proposed for annexation. The notice must also be posted in three public places within the subject territory, specify the time and place of the hearing, and invite interested persons to appear and voice approval or disapproval of the annexation. If the annexation proposal provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice must include a statement of these requirements.
- (d) If, following the conclusion of the hearing, a majority of the county legislative authority deems the annexation proposal to be in the best interest of the county, it may adopt a resolution approving of the annexation.

(e) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35.13.080 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.

- (f) If, following the county legislative authority's adoption of the annexation approval resolution and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the legislative body of the city or town proposing annexation determines to effect the annexation, it must do so by ordinance. The ordinance: (i) May only include territory approved for annexation in the resolution adopted under (d) of this subsection; and (ii) must not exclude territory approved for annexation in the resolution adopted under (d) of this subsection. Upon passage of the annexation ordinance, a certified copy must be filed with the applicable county legislative authority.
- (2) Any territory annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance.
- **Sec. 12.** RCW 35.21.790 and 1989 c 84 s 10 are each amended to read 24 as follows:
  - (1) The governing bodies of a county and any city or town located therein may by agreement revise any part of the corporate boundary of the city or town which coincides with the centerline, edge, or any portion of a public street, road or highway right-of-way by substituting therefor a right-of-way line of the same public street, road or highway so as fully to include or fully to exclude that segment of the public street, road or highway from the corporate limits of the city or town. At least a majority of the registered voters in the unincorporated area to be annexed or at least a majority of the owners of the real property in the unincorporated area to be annexed must give their written consent to the boundary revision.
  - (2) The revision of a corporate boundary as authorized by this section shall become effective when approved by ordinance of the city

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- 1 or town council or commission and by ordinance or resolution of the
- 2 county legislative authority. Such a boundary revision is not subject
- 3 to potential review by a boundary review board.

**Sec. 13.** RCW 35.21.890 and 1989 c 84 s 70 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

A city or town may provide factual information on the effects of a proposed boundary change on the city or town and the area potentially affected by the boundary change. A statement that the city or town has such information available, and copies of any printed materials or information available to be provided to the public shall be ((filled [filed])) filed with the boundary review board for the board's information.

- **Sec. 14.** RCW 35A.14.295 and 1997 c 429 s 36 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
  - (1) The legislative body of a code city may resolve to annex territory containing residential property owners to the city if there is within the city, unincorporated territory:
  - (a) Containing less than one hundred acres and having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of such area contiguous to the code city; or
    - (b) Of any size and having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of such area contiguous to the city if such area existed before June 30, 1994, and is within the same county and within the same urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110, and the city was planning under chapter 36.70A RCW as of June 30, 1994.
    - (2) The resolution shall describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, and set a date for a public hearing on such resolution for annexation. Notice of the hearing shall be given by publication of the resolution at least once a week for two weeks prior to the date of the hearing, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the code city and one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area to be annexed.
- 34 (3) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of 35 the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a 36 general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a

special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330.

Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give

their written consent to the annexation.

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(4) For purposes of subsection (1)(b) of this section, territory bounded by a river, lake, or other body of water is considered contiguous to a city that is also bounded by the same river, lake, or other body of water.

**Sec. 15.** RCW 35A.14.297 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.14.297 are each amended to read as follows:

On the date set for hearing as provided in RCW 35A.14.295, residents or property owners of the area included in the resolution for annexation shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard. legislative body may provide by ordinance for annexation of the territory described in the resolution, but the effective date of the ordinance shall be not less than forty-five days after the passage thereof. The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area to be annexed. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice shall include a statement of such requirements. Such annexation ordinance shall be subject to referendum for forty-five days after the passage thereof. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition as provided in RCW 35A.14.299 below, a referendum election shall be held as provided in RCW 35A.14.299, and the annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto. After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from, but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, as provided by RCW 35A.14.299 below)) After approval by a majority of the voters in

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the area, the area annexed shall become a part of the code city upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation.

- Sec. 16. RCW 35A.14.299 and 2006 c 344 s 25 are each amended to read as follows:
- ((Such annexation ordinance as provided for in RCW 35A.14.297 shall be subject to referendum for forty five days after the passage thereof. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body, signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of such area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of such election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in RCW 35A.29.151. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto.
- After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, the area annexed shall become a part of the code city upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation.)) From and after ((such)) the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation, if the ordinance so provided, property in the annexed area shall be subject to the proposed zoning regulation prepared and filed for such area as provided in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340. If the ordinance so provided, all property within the area annexed shall be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing code city is assessed and taxed to pay for any then outstanding indebtedness of such city contracted prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation.
- **Sec. 17.** RCW 35A.14.300 and 1981 c 332 s 7 are each amended to 32 read as follows:
- Legislative bodies of code cities may by a majority vote annex territory outside the limits of such city whether contiguous or noncontiguous for any municipal purpose when such territory is owned by

- the city. At least a majority of the registered voters in the unincorporated area to be annexed must give their written consent to
- 3 <u>the annexation.</u>

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Sec. 18. RCW 35A.14.310 and 1985 c 105 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

6 A code city may annex an unincorporated area contiguous to the city 7 that is owned by the federal government by adopting an ordinance providing for the annexation and which ordinance either acknowledges an 8 9 agreement of the annexation by the government of the United States, or 10 accepts a gift, grant, or lease from the government of the United 11 States of the right to occupy, control, improve it or sublet it for 12 commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes: PROVIDED, That this 13 right of annexation shall not apply to any territory more than four 14 miles from the corporate limits existing before such annexation. Whenever a code city proposes to annex territory under this section, 15 16 the city shall provide written notice of the proposed annexation to the 17 legislative authority of the county within which such territory is located. The notice shall be provided at least thirty days before the 18 city proposes to adopt the annexation ordinance. The city shall not 19 20 adopt the annexation ordinance, and the annexation shall not occur 21 under this section, if within twenty-five days of receipt of the notice, the county legislative authority adopts a resolution opposing 22 23 the annexation, which resolution makes a finding that the proposed 24 annexation will have an adverse fiscal impact on the county or road 25 district. At least a majority of the registered voters in the 26 unincorporated area to be annexed or all of the owners of the real property in the unincorporated area to be annexed must give their 27 28 written consent to the annexation.

- 29 **Sec. 19.** RCW 35A.14.460 and 2003 c 299 s 3 are each amended to 30 read as follows:
  - (1) The legislative body of a county or code city planning under chapter 36.70A RCW and subject to the requirements of RCW 36.70A.215 may initiate an annexation process for unincorporated territory by adopting a resolution commencing negotiations for an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW between a county and any code city within the county. The territory proposed for annexation

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must meet the following criteria: (a) Be within the code city urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110, and (b) at least sixty percent of the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation must be contiguous to the annexing code city or one or more cities or towns.

- (2) If the territory proposed for annexation has been designated in an adopted county comprehensive plan as part of an urban growth area, urban service area, or potential annexation area for a specific city, or if the urban growth area territory proposed for annexation has been designated in a written agreement between a city and a county for annexation to a specific city or town, the designation or designations shall receive full consideration before a city or county may initiate the annexation process provided for in RCW 35A.14.470.
- (3) The agreement shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be annexed. A public hearing shall be held by each legislative body, separately or jointly, before the agreement is executed. Each legislative body holding a public hearing shall, separately or jointly, publish the agreement at least once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory proposed for annexation.
- (4) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.
- (5) Following adoption and execution of the agreement by both legislative bodies and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the city legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation of the territory described in the agreement. ((The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory to be annexed. If the

annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice shall include a statement of the requirements.)) Any territory to be annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the city upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation((, which date may not be fewer than forty-five days after adoption of the ordinance)).

8 **Sec. 20.** RCW 35A.14.470 and 2006 c 344 s 26 are each amended to read as follows:

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- (1) The legislative body of any county planning under chapter 36.70A RCW and subject to the requirements of RCW 36.70A.215 may initiate an annexation process with the legislative body of any other cities or towns that are contiguous to the territory proposed for annexation in RCW 35A.14.460 if:
- 15 (a) The county legislative body initiated an annexation process as 16 provided in RCW 35A.14.460; and
  - (b) The affected city legislative body adopted a responsive resolution rejecting the proposed annexation or declined to create the requested interlocal agreement with the county; or
  - (c) More than one hundred eighty days have passed since adoption of a county resolution as provided for in RCW 35A.14.460 and the parties have not adopted or executed an interlocal agreement providing for the annexation of unincorporated territory. The legislative body for either the county or an affected city may, however, pass a resolution extending the negotiation period for one or more six-month periods if a public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each extension.
  - (2) Any county initiating the process provided for in subsection (1) of this section must do so by adopting a resolution commencing negotiations for an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW between the county and any city or town within the county. The annexation area must be within an urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110 and at least sixty percent of the boundaries of the territory to be annexed must be contiguous to one or more cities or towns.
  - (3) The agreement shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be annexed. A public hearing shall be held by each legislative body,

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separately or jointly, before the agreement is executed. Each legislative body holding a public hearing shall, separately or jointly, publish the agreement at least once a week for two weeks before the date of the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory proposed for annexation.

- (4) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.
- (5) Following adoption and execution of the agreement by both legislative bodies and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the city or town legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation. ((The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory to be annexed. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice shall include a statement of the requirements.)) Any area to be annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation((, which date may not be less than forty-five days after adoption of the ordinance.
- (5) The annexation ordinances provided for in RCW 35A.14.460(4) and subsection (4) of this section are subject to referendum for forty-five days after passage. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body, signed by registered voters in number equal to not less than fifteen percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a

special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto.

After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, the area annexed shall become a part of the city or town upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation)).

- (6) If more than one city or town adopts interlocal agreements providing for annexation of the same unincorporated territory as provided by this section, an election shall be held in the area to be annexed pursuant to RCW 35A.14.070. In addition to the provisions of RCW 35A.14.070, the ballot shall also contain a separate proposition allowing voters to cast votes in favor of annexation to any one city or town participating in an interlocal agreement as provided by this section. If a majority of voters voting on the proposition vote against annexation, the proposition is defeated. If, however, a majority of voters voting in the election approve annexation, the area shall be annexed to the city or town receiving the highest number of votes among those cast in favor of annexation.
- 24 (7) Costs for an election required under subsection (6) of this 25 section shall be borne by the county.
- **Sec. 21.** RCW 35A.14.480 and 2009 c 60 s 9 are each amended to read 27 as follows:
  - (1)(a) An annexation by a code city proposing to annex territory served by one or more fire protection districts may be accomplished by ordinance after entering into an interlocal agreement as provided in chapter 39.34 RCW with the county and the fire protection district or districts that have jurisdiction over the territory proposed for annexation.
  - (b) A code city proposing to annex territory shall initiate the interlocal agreement process by sending notice to the fire protection district representative and county representative stating the code city's interest to enter into an interlocal agreement negotiation

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- The parties have forty-five days to respond in the 1 2 affirmative or negative. A negative response must state the reasons the parties do not wish to participate in an interlocal agreement 3 4 negotiation. A failure to respond within the forty-five day period is deemed an affirmative response and the interlocal agreement negotiation 5 process may proceed. The interlocal agreement process may not proceed 6 7 if any negative responses are received within the forty-five day 8 period.
  - (c) The interlocal agreement must describe the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation and must be consistent with the boundaries identified in an ordinance describing the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation and setting a date for a public hearing on the ordinance. If the boundaries of the territory proposed for annexation are agreed to by all parties, a notice of intention must be filed with the boundary review board created under RCW 36.93.030. However, the jurisdiction of the board may not be invoked as described in RCW 36.93.100 for annexations that are the subject of such agreement.
- 19 (2) An interlocal annexation agreement under this section must 20 include the following:
- 21 (a) A statement of the goals of the agreement. Goals must include, 22 but are not limited to:
- 23 (i) The transfer of revenues and assets between the fire protection 24 district and the code city;
  - (ii) A consideration and discussion of the impact to the level of service of annexation on the unincorporated area, and an agreement that the impact on the ability of fire protection and emergency medical services within the incorporated area must not be negatively impacted at least through the budget cycle in which the annexation occurs;
- 30 (iii) A discussion with fire protection districts regarding the 31 division of assets and its impact to citizens inside and outside the 32 newly annexed area;
- (iv) Community involvement, including an agreed upon schedule of public meetings in the area or areas proposed for annexation;
  - (v) Revenue sharing, if any;
- 36 (vi) Debt distribution;

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(vii) Capital facilities obligations of the code city, county, and fire protection districts;

- 1 (viii) An overall schedule or plan on the timing of any annexations 2 covered under this agreement; and
  - (ix) A description of which of the annexing code cities' development regulations will apply and be enforced in the area.
  - (b) The subject areas and policies and procedures the parties agree to undertake in annexations. Subject areas may include, but are not limited to:
    - (i) Roads and traffic impact mitigation;
    - (ii) Surface and storm water management;
- 10 (iii) Coordination and timing of comprehensive plan and development 11 regulation updates;
- 12 (iv) Outstanding bonds and special or improvement district 13 assessments;
- 14 (v) Annexation procedures;

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- 15 (vi) Distribution of debt and revenue sharing for annexation 16 proposals, code enforcement, and inspection services;
  - (vii) Financial and administrative services; and
- 18 (viii) Consultation with other service providers, including water-19 sewer districts, if applicable.
  - (c) A term of at least five years, which may be extended by mutual agreement of the code city, the county, and the fire protection district.
  - (3) If the fire protection district, annexing code city, and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals or if only the annexing code city and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals, the ((annexation ordinance may proceed and is not subject to referendum. If only the annexing code city and county reach an agreement on the enumerated goals, the code city and county may proceed with annexation under the interlocal agreement, but the annexation ordinance provided for in this section is subject to referendum for forty-five days after its passage. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body of the code city, signed by qualified electors in a number not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation must be submitted to the voters of the area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election must be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070, and

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the election must be conducted as provided in the general election laws under Title 29A RCW)) question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation. The annexation must be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition to the annexation or unless less than a majority provide their written consent to the annexation. 

After the ((expiration of the forty-fifth day from, but excluding, the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if a timely and sufficient referendum petition has not been filed)) approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the area annexed becomes a part of the code city upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation.

- **Sec. 22.** RCW 35A.14.490 and 2009 c 402 s 5 are each amended to 20 read as follows:
  - (1) Territory owned by a county and used for an agricultural fair as provided in chapter 15.76 ((RCW)) or ((chapter)) 36.37 RCW may only be annexed to a code city through the method prescribed in this section.
  - (a) The legislative body of the city proposing the annexation must submit a request for annexation and a legal description of the subject territory to the legislative authority of the county within which the territory is located.
  - (b) Upon receipt of the request and description, the county legislative authority has thirty days to review the proposal and determine if the annexation proceedings will continue. As a condition of approval, the county legislative authority may modify the proposal, but it may not add territory that was not included in the request and description. Approval of the county legislative authority is a condition precedent to further proceedings upon the request and there is no appeal of the county legislative authority's decision.

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(c) If the county legislative authority determines that the proceedings may continue, it must, within thirty days of the determination, fix a date for a public hearing on the proposal, and cause notice of the hearing to be published at least once a week for two weeks prior to the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the territory proposed for annexation. The notice must also be posted in three public places within the subject territory, specify the time and place of the hearing, and invite interested persons to appear and voice approval or disapproval of the annexation. If the annexation proposal provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice must include a statement of these requirements.

- (d) If, following the conclusion of the hearing, a majority of the county legislative authority deems the annexation proposal to be in the best interest of the county, it may adopt a resolution approving of the annexation.
- (e) The question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area, if the area contains at least one hundred voters, in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose according to RCW 29A.04.330. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in the general election law. If the area to be annexed contains less than one hundred voters, at least a majority of the voters in the area to be annexed must give their written consent to the annexation.
- (f) If, following the county legislative authority's adoption of the annexation approval resolution and approval by a majority of the voters in the area, the legislative body of the city proposing annexation determines to effect the annexation, it must do so by ordinance. The ordinance: (i) May only include territory approved for annexation in the resolution adopted under (d) of this subsection; and (ii) must not exclude territory approved for annexation in the resolution adopted under (d) of this subsection. Upon passage of the annexation ordinance, a certified copy must be filed with the applicable county legislative authority.
- (2) Any territory annexed through an ordinance adopted under this section is annexed and becomes a part of the code city upon the date fixed in the ordinance.

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- 1 **Sec. 23.** RCW 35A.21.210 and 1989 c 84 s 11 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) The governing bodies of a county and any code city located 3 therein may by agreement revise any part of the corporate boundary of 4 the city which coincides with the centerline, edge, or any portion of 5 a public street, road or highway right-of-way by substituting therefor 6 a right-of-way line of the same public street, road or highway so as 7 8 fully to include or fully to exclude that segment of the public street, road or highway from the corporate limits of the city. 9 At least a 10 majority of the registered voters in the unincorporated area to be 11 annexed or at least a majority of the owners of the real property in 12 the unincorporated area to be annexed must give their written consent 13 to the boundary revision.
  - (2) The revision of a corporate boundary as authorized by this section shall become effective when approved by ordinance of the city council and by ordinance or resolution of the county legislative authority. Such a boundary revision is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 24.** The following acts or parts of acts are 20 each repealed:
- 21 (1) RCW 35.13.1821 (Annexation of unincorporated island of 22 territory--Referendum--Election) and 2006 c 344 s 22 & 1998 c 286 s 2; 23 and
- 24 (2) RCW 35.13.1822 (Annexation of unincorporated island of territory--Notice, hearing) and 1998 c 286 s 3.

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