
HOUSE BILL 1189

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives S. Hunt, Holy, Bergquist, Johnson, Appleton, and Buys

Read first time 01/15/15. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to hours of availability for inspection and
2 copying of public records; and amending RCW 42.56.090.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.56.090 and 2009 c 428 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Public records shall be available for inspection and copying
7 during the customary office hours of the agency, the office of the
8 secretary of the senate, and the office of the chief clerk of the
9 house of representatives for a minimum of thirty hours per week,
10 except weeks that include state legal holidays, unless the person
11 making the request and the agency, the office of the secretary of the
12 senate, or the office of the chief clerk of the house of
13 representatives or its representative agree on a different time.
14 Customary business hours must be posted on the agency or office's web
15 site and made known by other means designed to provide the public
16 with notice.

17 (2)(a) Cities, towns, and special purpose districts that
18 customarily do not maintain office hours for a minimum of thirty
19 hours per week are not required to do so and must post on the agency
20 headquarters location, and web site if the agency maintains one,

1 directions on how to contact agency personnel to inspect or copy
2 public records.

3 (b)(i) Contacting agency personnel includes any contact that
4 results in agency personnel actually knowing that a request to
5 inspect or copy public records is being made; or

6 (ii) Proof that delivery of a properly addressed certified
7 letter, return receipt requested, was attempted, whether the agency
8 accepts the letter or not.

9 (c) The agency must include and respond promptly to the request
10 to inspect or copy public records in the business conducted at its
11 next regularly scheduled meeting subsequent to contact of agency
12 personnel.

13 (d) The agency must respond within the time requirements of RCW
14 42.56.520 with the time of receipt of the request being the date of
15 the agency's next regularly scheduled meeting.

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