
HOUSE BILL 1588

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Taylor, Shea, Harris, Short, G. Hunt, Scott, Pike, and Condotta

Read first time 01/23/15. Referred to Committee on Environment.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing categorical exemptions in the
2 state environmental policy act for development proposals that are
3 consistent with locally adopted land use and shoreline regulations;
4 adding new sections to chapter 43.21C RCW; and creating a new
5 section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that provisions and
8 directives adopted by the legislature in chapter 347, Laws of 1995,
9 landmark regulatory reform legislation that represented a consensus
10 of diverse interests and eighteen months of effort by the governor's
11 task force on regulatory reform, remain valid and unrealized in 2015.

12 The legislature reasserts that: (1) The project review process
13 must be used to make individual project decisions and may not be used
14 to make land use planning decisions; (2) the permitting process may
15 not be used as a comprehensive planning process; and (3) proposed
16 projects are subject to numerous laws, regulations, and plans that
17 provide environmental analysis, and that these projects should not be
18 subjected to duplicative environmental review under the state
19 environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to
2 chapter 43.21C RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Development proposals, or any portion thereof, in counties
4 and cities planning under RCW 36.70A.040 that are consistent with the
5 applicable comprehensive plan and development regulations adopted or
6 amended under chapter 36.70A RCW are categorically exempt from the
7 requirements of this chapter.

8 (2) This section applies to counties and cities with
9 comprehensive plans adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW that were, prior
10 to adoption, subject to environmental analysis through an
11 environmental impact statement under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to
13 chapter 43.21C RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) Development proposals, or any portion thereof, in shorelines
15 of the state that are consistent with the applicable master programs
16 adopted or amended under chapter 90.58 RCW are categorically exempt
17 from the requirements of this chapter.

18 (2) This section applies to counties and cities with master
19 programs adopted under chapter 90.58 RCW that were, prior to
20 adoption, subject to environmental analysis through an environmental
21 impact statement under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

22 (3) For purposes of this section, "development" has the same
23 meaning as defined in RCW 90.58.030.

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