
HOUSE BILL 2945

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton and Moscoso

Read first time 01/29/16. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a legislative task force to
2 review the growth management act; creating a new section; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that in the more
6 than twenty-five years since its original enactment, the growth
7 management act has significantly changed the processes and results of
8 planning decisions and land use practices in Washington. Between 1990
9 and 2015, the population of Washington significantly increased from
10 four million eight hundred seventy thousand to over seven million. In
11 2012, the office of financial management estimated that the state
12 will nearly double its population, reaching eight million eight
13 hundred thousand residents by 2040. It is the intent of the
14 legislature to review the growth management act to identify areas of
15 the law that may benefit from modification to better ensure that
16 Washington's land use practices align with the needs of current and
17 future residents.

18 (2) A legislative task force on the growth management act is
19 established, with members as provided in this subsection. All member
20 appointments or selections must be made by July 1, 2016.

1 (a) The majority and minority leaders of the senate shall appoint
2 two members from each of the relevant caucuses of the senate.

3 (b) The majority and minority leaders of the house of
4 representatives shall appoint two members from each of the relevant
5 caucuses of the house of representatives.

6 (c) The governor shall appoint:

7 (i) One member who represents environmental concerns;

8 (ii) One member who represents the building industry;

9 (iii) One member who represents property owners;

10 (iv) One member who represents buyers and sellers of real
11 property;

12 (v) Two members who represent rural economic interests, with one
13 member residing east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range and
14 the other residing west of the crest of the Cascade mountain range;
15 and

16 (vi) Two members who represent urban economic interests, with one
17 member residing east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range and
18 the other residing west of the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

19 (d) An association representing Washington cities shall appoint
20 two members who are elected members of the legislative bodies of
21 cities or towns or mayors of cities or towns, with one member
22 residing east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range and the
23 other residing west of the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

24 (e) An association representing Washington counties shall appoint
25 two members who are elected members of a county legislative body or
26 elected executives of a county, with one member residing east of the
27 crest of the Cascade mountain range and the other residing west of
28 the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

29 (3) The chair of the house of representatives local government
30 committee shall be the chair of the task force. The chair shall
31 convene at least three meetings of the task force.

32 (4) The task force shall review the growth management act and
33 provide recommendations, if any, for modifications of the act that
34 will help ensure that Washington's land use practices align with the
35 needs of current and future residents of the state. In conducting its
36 review, the task force may consider issues including land management,
37 school siting, short line railroads, economic development, and other
38 issues identified by the task force.

1 (5) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
2 senate committee services and the house of representatives office of
3 program research.

4 (6) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for
5 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
6 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
7 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,
8 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
9 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

10 (7) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
11 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are
12 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee
13 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their
14 successor committees.

15 (8) By November 1, 2016, the task force must submit to the
16 appropriate committees of the legislature, in accordance with RCW
17 43.01.036, a summary of the task force's discussions and
18 recommendations, if any.

19 (9) This section expires January 1, 2017.

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