
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1724

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representative Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to local government responsibility and
2 accountability in mitigating impacts of public facilities on certain
3 surrounding neighborhoods with high poverty and concentrations of
4 persons of color; and adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) A city with a population of more than five hundred fifty
9 thousand that permits a public facility to be constructed or operated
10 by another local government agency, transit authority, or public
11 facility district in a neighborhood with a high poverty level and a
12 high rate of ethnic diversity shall formally request that the entity
13 that is constructing or is operating the public facility assess and
14 mitigate the negative impacts that the facility has had or might have
15 on the surrounding neighborhood. The entity operating or constructing
16 the facility must consider the potential or actual disparate racial,
17 social, and economic impacts of the public facility on residents
18 nearby and develop a mitigation plan, which keeps the residents of
19 the impacted neighborhood whole for the costs of the mitigation
20 strategy, including paying for the costs of any residential parking
21 zone necessitated by the facility causing the impact. The entity

1 operating or constructing the facility may negotiate with other
2 political subdivisions who have a direct interest in having created
3 the negative impacts, but the residents must be held harmless.

4 (2) For purposes of this section, neighborhood boundaries are
5 defined by the boundaries of community reporting areas, as
6 established in the most recent United States census.

7 (3) For purposes of this section:

8 (a) A neighborhood has a high poverty level if twelve percent or
9 more of the population is below the poverty level according to the
10 most recent American community survey's five-year estimate.

11 (b) A neighborhood has a high rate of ethnic diversity if forty
12 percent or more of the population identifies as persons of color
13 according to the most recent American community survey's five-year
14 estimate.

--- END ---