

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1326**

68th Legislature  
2023 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 13, 2023  
Yeas 84 Nays 12

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**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 6, 2023  
Yeas 45 Nays 1

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1326** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1326**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      68th Legislature                      2023 Regular Session**

**By** House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Cortes, Chopp, Berry, Duerr, Farivar, Morgan, Peterson, Ramel, Ryu, Senn, Simmons, Walen, Mena, Reed, Doglio, Pollet, Springer, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/23.

1            AN ACT Relating to waiving municipal utility connection charges  
2 for certain properties; amending RCW 35.92.380; and adding a new  
3 section to chapter 35.92 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 35.92  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7            (1) Municipal utilities formed under this chapter may waive  
8 connection charges for properties owned or developed by, or on the  
9 behalf of, a nonprofit organization, public development authority,  
10 housing authority, or local agency that provides emergency shelter,  
11 transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, or affordable  
12 housing, including a limited partnership as described in RCW  
13 84.36.560(7)(f)(ii) and a limited liability company as described in  
14 RCW 84.36.560(7)(f)(iii).

15            (2) Connection charges waived under this chapter shall be funded  
16 using general funds, grant dollars, or other identified revenue  
17 stream.

18            (3) At such time as a property receiving a waiver under  
19 subsection (1) of this section is no longer operating under the  
20 eligibility requirements under subsection (1) of this section:

1 (a) The waiver of connection charges required under subsection  
2 (1) of this section is no longer required; and

3 (b) Any connection charges waived under subsection (1) of this  
4 section are immediately due and payable to the utility as a condition  
5 of continued service.

6 (4) For the purposes of this section:

7 (a) "Affordable housing" has the same meaning as in RCW  
8 36.70A.030.

9 (b) "Connection charges" means the one-time capital and  
10 administrative charges, as authorized in RCW 35.92.025, that are  
11 imposed by a utility on a building or facility owner for a new  
12 utility service and costs borne or assessed by a utility for the  
13 labor, materials, and services necessary to physically connect a  
14 designated facility to the respective utility service.

15 (c) "Emergency shelter" means any facility that has, as its sole  
16 purpose, the provision of a temporary shelter for the homeless and  
17 that does not require occupants to sign a lease or occupancy  
18 agreement.

19 (d) "Permanent supportive housing" has the same meaning as in RCW  
20 36.70A.030.

21 (e) "Transitional housing" has the same meaning as in RCW  
22 84.36.043.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.92.380 and 1980 c 150 s 1 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 Whenever a city or town waives or delays collection of tap-in  
26 charges, connection fees, or hookup fees for (~~low-income~~) low-  
27 income persons, (~~or~~) a class of (~~low-income~~) low-income persons,  
28 or a nonprofit organization, public development authority, housing  
29 authority, or local agency that provides emergency shelter,  
30 transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, or affordable  
31 housing as defined in section 1 of this act to connect to lines or  
32 pipes used by the city or town to provide utility service, the waiver  
33 or delay shall be pursuant to a program established by ordinance. As  
34 used in this section, the provision of "utility service" includes,  
35 but is not limited to, water, sanitary or storm sewer service,  
36 electricity, gas, other means of power, and heat.

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