



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**July 6, 2010**

**Motion 13267**

**Proposed No. 2010-0342.1**

**Sponsors Phillips and Ferguson**

1           A MOTION urging support for favorable consideration by  
2           the United States Congress of legislation authorizing tax-  
3           exempt status for conservation forestry bonds.

4           WHEREAS, the presence of extensive tracts of working forest lands within King  
5           County provides the region with the opportunity to conserve these lands, and

6           WHEREAS, such lands provide green jobs, revenue for local governments and  
7           wood products for manufacturing, construction, energy production and other purposes,  
8           and

9           WHEREAS, such lands face potential conversion to other uses, including  
10          residential development, as they become available for sale, and

11          WHEREAS, the funding levels that would be needed for direct acquisition of  
12          these lands by public agencies interested in conserving them as working forests far  
13          exceeds the levels of funding available for that purpose, and

14          WHEREAS, given limited availability of direct public and philanthropic funding,  
15          innovative conservation financing tools have the potential to play an important role in  
16          retaining these lands in working forest status and retaining the associated jobs, and

17          WHEREAS, among those tools are conservation forestry bonds, and

18 WHEREAS, such bonds can be utilized to acquire specified properties, manage  
19 them as working forests, and repay bond debt obligations with revenue from timber sales  
20 managed for sustainable conservation purposes, and

21 WHEREAS, such bonds are currently being considered by the United States  
22 Congress for tax-exempt status through the Community Forestry and Conservation Act of  
23 2009, and

24 WHEREAS, Washington's Congressional Delegation members Senator Murray,  
25 Senator Cantwell, Congressman McDermott and Congressman Reichert are sponsors of  
26 the Act, and

27 WHEREAS, counties throughout the state and the nation can benefit by this  
28 additional tool for conserving working forests and retaining green jobs;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

30 A. The King County council hereby urges the United States Congress to act  
31 swiftly and favorably upon legislation that would authorize tax-exempt status for such  
32 bonds.

33 B. The executive is directed to work with the Washington State Association of  
34 Counties on encouraging county governments statewide to communicate their support  
35 and enthusiasm for such legislation directly to members of the congressional delegations  
36 representing their regions.

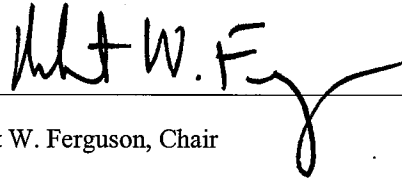
37 C. The council hereby expresses its intent to include support for such

38 congressional measures in its federal legislative agenda, and to emphasize the importance  
39 of these measures in communications with the state's congressional delegation.  
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Motion 13267 was introduced on 6/7/2010 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 7/6/2010, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Drago, Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett,  
Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Dunn  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



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Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:



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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None