



heritage sites, local festivals and family programs, and

WHEREAS, Americans for the Arts reported that 2012 data from The College Board, a leading advocate and resource for excellence and equity in education, shows that students who took four years of arts and music classes while in high school scored about 100 points better on their SATs than students who took only one-half year or less, and

WHEREAS, this legislation would enable counties to create cultural access funds to support cultural organizations at the local level; and these funds would enable thousands of citizens and K-12 students greater access to cultural and educational activities through free and reduced-priced admissions, expanded experiences at schools or on-site, and increased outreach activities in underserved populations, and

WHEREAS, new policies are needed in Washington to enable local governments to increase access to these educational experiences, and

WHEREAS, the states of Colorado, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Missouri have adopted legislation authorizing the use of special tax districts to support arts and cultural organizations;

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

A. The council acknowledges the importance of arts, heritage and science organizations and their impact on the quality of life in the Puget Sound region; and

B. The council supports passage of state legislation that would enable local governments to create cultural access funds that would increase access to cultural experiences for children and adults across Washington.