



purpose, and

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

WHEREAS, among those tools are conservation forestry bonds, and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

C. The council hereby expresses its intent to include support for such congressional measures in its federal legislative agenda, and to emphasize the importance of these measures in communications with the state's congressional delegation.