



Legislation Text

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Clerk 01/05/2010

A MOTION establishing the 2010 State Legislative Agenda for King County.

WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council and the King County executive have worked together through their respective government relations staff and desire to bring their positions on issues facing the 2010 Washington state Legislature to the attention of the Washington state Legislature, and

WHEREAS, King County desires to work cooperatively with other local governments and other organizations such as the Washington State Association of Counties, the Washington Association of County Officials, the Suburban Cities Association and the Association of Washington Cities to achieve its 2010 legislative goals, and

WHEREAS, counties have been recognized by the Legislature as partners with the state in the delivery of such critical services as transportation, criminal justice, public health, community and human services and water resources, and

WHEREAS, King County is dependent on a strong fiscal partnership with the state, and

WHEREAS, King County's general fund suffers from a structural imbalance between the limited revenue authorities and the growth rate of expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the ongoing national recession has resulted in dramatic budget shortfalls at all levels of government across the nation, and

WHEREAS, the dramatic downturn of the economy has magnified the general fund's structural problem as forecast sales tax and interest earnings deteriorate and the cost of providing services increases due to rising inflation, and

WHEREAS, counties currently have a limited number of options to ask local voters for additional resources for specific county services, and

WHEREAS, if King County is going to be able to continue delivering basic government services to our residents, it needs additional fiscal flexibility tools, and

WHEREAS, King County is dedicated to exploring with the state new ideas for sustained funding for critical services such as transportation, public safety and public health, and

WHEREAS, the King County council and the King County executive will continue to review legislative developments for possible revisions of King County's 2010 state legislative program;

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

The King County council adopts the attached "2010 Legislative Agenda for King County" as King County's highest priorities for action in the 2010 legislative session of the Washington state Legislature.