

State of Washington  
& Skagit County

# Voters' Pamphlet

November 3, 2009 General Election



Published by the Office of the Secretary of State  
& Skagit County

## Learn, give back... and vote!

This is your opportunity. Following up on the record-breaking 2008 election season, we in Washington State are getting involved in our communities as never before. As we weather these difficult economic times together, we are rolling up our sleeves and finding meaningful ways to get engaged, to give back, to volunteer, and to help find solutions to some of our toughest problems.

My office has adopted the theme FindYour One Thing this year to underscore a simple truth – that each and every person has the gifts and talents to make a difference. It can be a simple act, like changing to environmentally-friendly lightbulbs, or something more involved, like volunteering in our schools or working with people with disabilities, the elderly, or the hungry.

As your chief elections official, I hope that your “civic engagement” will also include registering and voting. It has never been easier. Visit us online at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) for a variety of resources, including online registration, customized voter information at MyVote, and the Online Voters’ Guide.

As you scan this newly redesigned Voters’ Pamphlet, you’ll notice the 2009 election features two statewide ballot measures. But this year’s election is mostly dedicated to picking our local government leaders. Some areas will have legislative and judicial races, as well. If your local candidate information is not included in this pamphlet, your county elections department will have information available for you.

This is your time to choose, and to get involved.

Thanks for participating!

Sincerely,



SAM REED

Secretary of State



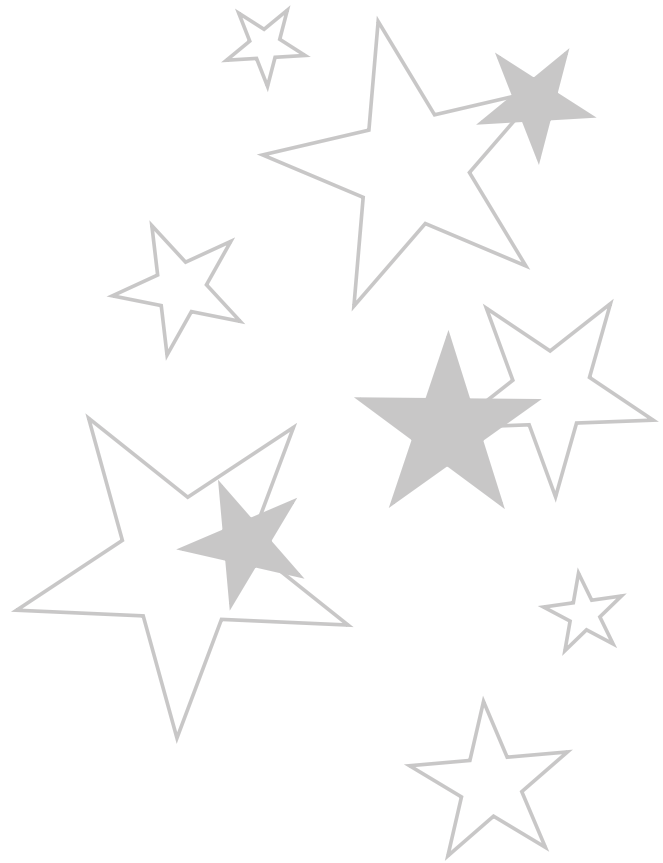
Secretary of State Voter Information Hotline (800) 448-4881

Visit our Online Voters’ Guide at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)

## November 3, 2009 General Election

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#### Informational icons in this pamphlet



General information



Urgent information



Please note a change



#### Your Voters' Pamphlet has changed

The Elections Division has worked hard, in collaboration with AIGA's Design for Democracy program, to bring you the fresh new look you will find in these pages. Our goal is to present you the same outstanding information in an updated format. We hope you like what you see.

Let us know what you think. Send us an email at [voterspamphlet@secstate.wa.gov](mailto:voterspamphlet@secstate.wa.gov).

# Voting in Washington State

## Voter Qualifications

To register to vote, you must be:

A citizen of the United States;

A legal resident of Washington State;

At least 18 years old by Election Day; and

If you have been convicted of a felony in Washington, another state, or in federal court, you lose your right to vote in Washington State until you are released from Department of Corrections supervision.

In Washington State, you do not declare political party affiliation when you register to vote.

## Registration Deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. You must register by mail or online at least 29 days before an election. If you are a new voter in Washington State, you may register in person at your county elections department up to eight days before an election. The phone number and address of your county elections department is located in the back of this pamphlet. You do not need to register before each election; only register once.

## How to Register to Vote

If you have a Washington State driver's license or identification card, you may register to vote online at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov). Registration forms are also available online or at your county elections department, public libraries, schools, and other government offices. You may also request a form through the State Voter Information Hotline at (800) 448-4881.

## Keep Your Voter Registration Up-to-Date

You can use the online or mail-in voter registration form to let your county elections department know when you move or change your name. You must re-register or transfer your registration at least 29 days before the election to be eligible to vote in your new precinct.

## Election Dates and Poll Hours

The General Election is November 3, 2009. Polling place hours (Pierce County only) are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Replacement Ballots

If you are registered to vote by mail or absentee and you didn't receive your ballot, call your county elections department and request a replacement ballot.

## Campaign Spending Information

Contact the Public Disclosure Commission at 711 Capitol Way, Rm 206, PO Box 40908, Olympia, WA 98504-0908, or by phone (360) 753-1111, email [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov), or [www.pdcca.wa.gov](http://www.pdcca.wa.gov).

## Services and Additional Assistance

Contact your county elections department for help voting your ballot, finding your polling location (Pierce County only), or with questions about voter registration. The phone number and address of your county elections department is located in the back of this pamphlet. Contact the Office of the Secretary of State for the following.

Voters' Pamphlets in alternate formats or languages.

Additional information about initiatives or referenda.

This information is also available at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) or call the Voter Information Hotline at (800) 448-4881.

## View Election Results

On Election Day after 9 p.m. you can view county and statewide election results at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov).



### Voter registration deadlines

You must register by mail or online at least 29 days before an election. If you are a new voter in Washington State, you may register in person at your county elections department up to eight days before an election.

# The Ballot Measure Process

The Washington State Constitution affords voters two methods of direct legislative power — the initiative and the referendum.

While differing in process, both initiatives and referenda leave ultimate legislative authority in the hands of the people.

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## The Initiative

**Initiatives to the People** - Initiatives to the people, if certified to have sufficient signatures, are submitted for a vote of the people at the next state general election.

**Initiatives to the Legislature** - Initiatives to the Legislature, if certified to have sufficient signatures, are submitted to the Legislature at its regular session each January.

Any registered voter, acting individually or on behalf of an organization, may propose an initiative to create a new state law or to amend or repeal an existing statute.

To certify an initiative (to the people or to the Legislature), the sponsor must circulate the complete text of the proposal among voters and obtain a number of legal voter signatures equal to 8 percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of Governor at the last regular gubernatorial election.

Initiative measures appearing on the ballot require a simple majority vote to become law (except for gambling or lottery measures, which require 60 percent approval).

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## The Referendum

**Referendum Bills** - Referendum bills are proposed laws referred to the electorate by the Legislature.

**Referendum Measures** - Referendum measures are laws recently passed by the Legislature that are placed on the ballot because of petitions signed by voters.

Any registered voter, acting individually or on behalf of an organization, may demand, by petition, that a law passed by the Legislature be referred to a vote of the electorate prior to its going into effect. Emergency legislation is exempt from the referendum process.

To certify a referendum measure to the ballot, the sponsor must circulate among voters the text of the legislative act to be referred, and obtain a number of legal voter signatures equal to 4 percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of Governor at the last regular gubernatorial election.

A referendum certified to the ballot must receive a simple majority vote to become law (except for gambling and lottery measures, which require 60 percent approval).

Please note: The preceding information is not intended as a substitute for the statutes governing the initiative and referendum processes, but rather should be read in conjunction with them.

For more information go to [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and click on "Handbook for Filing Initiatives and Referenda in WA State."



**Initiative Measure****1033**

Proposed by initiative petition:

## **Initiative Measure No. 1033 concerns state, county and city revenue.**

**This measure would limit growth of certain state, county and city revenue to annual inflation and population growth, not including voter-approved revenue increases. Revenue collected above the limit would reduce property tax levies.**

**Should this measure be enacted into law?**

**Yes**

**No**

The Official Ballot Title and the Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The Fiscal Impact Statement was written by the Office of Financial Management as required by law. The Secretary of State is not responsible for the content of arguments or statements (WAC 434-381-180). The complete text of Initiative Measure 1033 begins on page 11.

## **Explanatory Statement**

### **The Law as it Presently Exists:**

State and local governments receive revenue through taxes and fees. Some of the rates for these taxes and fees are set by elected representatives in the state Legislature, or in the case of certain local taxes, by local city councils, county councils, or boards of county commissioners. Local taxes may be imposed only if they are authorized by state law. The rates for taxes paid to the State of Washington are set in statute by the Legislature. The voters may also enact laws regarding taxes by initiative or, if applicable, by referendum. Some local taxes can only be imposed if the local voters approve them. State law also permits the assessment of certain

fees by state or local agencies, as authorized by the Legislature.

The State deposits much of the revenue that it receives from taxes and fees into the state general fund and into accounts referred to by the law as "related funds." Cities and counties place much of the revenue that they receive from taxes and fees into local "current expense funds." These funds are similar in nature to the State's general fund. State law limits spending from the State general fund and "related funds" to the prior year's expenditures from those funds, increased by the average growth in state personal income for the prior ten years. The spending limit does not apply to city and county expenditures.

The state constitution and state statutes limit the maximum amount of revenue that state and local governments may collect from property taxes in a given year, and the amount that property taxes may be increased each year. The state constitution generally limits the total of all annual property tax levies on a particular property to no more than 1% of its true and fair value, unless voters approve higher property taxes. In addition, by statute, the total amount of money that any state or local jurisdiction receives from property taxes may only increase by 1% per year, or the rate of inflation. Total property tax revenue for each jurisdiction can only go up by more than this amount if the voters of that jurisdiction approve the increase by a majority vote. Property taxes for particular parcels may increase or decrease by more or less than that amount, depending on changes in assessed valuation or new construction. Property taxes are levied by both state and local governments. Local property taxes are levied by cities, counties, and special districts, either by the elected representatives or through voter approval of specific property tax levies.

### **The Effect of the Proposed Measure, if Approved:**

This measure would limit the growth of revenue to the State's general fund and "related funds," and to cities' and counties' local "current expense funds," based on an annual rate of inflation and population growth. If the State or any city or county receives revenue in a given year above the revenue limit established by the measure, then it must deposit the revenues above the limit into a separate account, and reduce the amount that it otherwise would be authorized to levy in property taxes in the following year by that amount.

The limit on revenue growth would not apply to

revenue increases approved by the voters at an election, and money received from the federal government would not be included in the State's revenue limit. The inflation rate used to calculate the revenue growth limit would be based on the implicit price deflator for the United States. The limit on state general fund revenue also would be based on changes in statewide population, while for cities and counties it would be based on changes in population for each city and county. The revenue limit would be adjusted if the costs of any program or service are shifted to or from the state general fund or local current expense fund to another fund, or if revenue is transferred from the state general fund or local current expense fund to another fund.

## Fiscal Impact Statement

### Fiscal Impact Through Calendar Year 2015

Initiative 1033 limits annual growth of state, city and county general fund revenue to the rate of inflation and population growth. General fund revenues exceeding this limit must be used to reduce the following year's state, city or county general fund property tax levy. The initiative reduces state general fund revenues that support education; social, health and environmental services; and general government activities by an estimated \$5.9 billion by 2015. The initiative also reduces general fund revenues that support public safety, infrastructure and general government activities by an estimated \$694 million for counties and \$2.1 billion for cities by 2015.

### General Assumptions

The initiative is set on a calendar year (CY) basis.

CY 2010 revenue limit is calculated as follows: CY 2009 General Fund Revenue  $\times$  (1 + 2009 % Change Population)  $\times$  (1 + 2009 % Change Inflation).

CY 2010 general fund revenues that exceed the CY 2010 revenue limit will be transferred into new "Lower Property Tax Accounts" for the state, counties and cities. The first transfer(s) into the new accounts will occur in CY 2011.

The first property tax levy to be reduced by the initiative is the 2011 levy, which is collected in CY 2012. Thus, funds will be transferred from the new "Lower Property Tax Accounts" into state, county and city general funds in CY 2012 to account for any reduction in 2011 levies.

### State Revenue Estimate - Assumptions

The initiative defines state general fund revenue as the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees and other governmental charges received by state government that are deposited into any fund subject to the state's expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025. For CY 2009 and CY 2010, state general fund revenues are General Fund – State revenue estimates from the June 2009 Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council converted from a fiscal-year basis to a calendar-year basis.

The following state revenue sources, totaling less than \$30 million annually, have been excluded from these estimates:

- Sales and income from property.
- Contributions and grants.
- Grant and loan repayments.
- Indirect and prior cost recoveries.
- Unclaimed property.
- Charges for publications and documents.
- Interest and investment earnings.

State general fund revenues for CYs 2011–15 are estimated to grow, on average, by the change in real per capita personal income plus change in inflation plus change in population, adjusted for revenue elasticity. This methodology is consistent with prior long-term revenue forecasts produced by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), and results in an average annual growth rate of 4.8 percent.

State general fund revenues are reduced by the amount required to be transferred into the Budget Stabilization Account created under Article 7, Section 12, of the Washington State Constitution.

The initiative defines inflation as the annual percentage change in the Implicit Price Deflator for Personal Consumption for the United States as published on or about March 27 each calendar year by the Bureau of Economic Analysis and reported by OFM. Inflation estimates for CY 2009 and CY 2011 are from the June 2009 Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast. Inflation estimates for CYs 2012–15 are from the June 2009 IHS Global Insight forecast of the Implicit Price Deflator for the United States. The Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council relies on IHS Global Insight models and data for the U.S. portion of the official state economic forecast.

The initiative defines population growth as the percentage change in the statewide population based on the annual statewide population determinations reported by OFM during the prior calendar year and the current calendar year. Statewide population growth estimates are from OFM's 30-Year Forecast of the State Population. (See page 9, Figure 1.1)

### **State Costs to Implement - Assumptions**

Less than \$50,000 will be incurred by OFM in CY 2009 and CY 2010 to set up, test and verify computer systems, and establish policies and practices to implement a state general fund revenue limit.

### **County and City Revenue Estimate - Assumptions**

The initiative applies to counties, first class cities, second class cities, code cities, towns and unclassified cities.

To account for possible different patterns in population and revenue growth, counties and cities were analyzed using four groupings:

1. Urban County – 7 counties
2. Rural County – 32 counties
3. Cities in Urban Counties – 109 cities and towns
4. Cities in Rural Counties – 172 cities and towns

Urban counties are Clark, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane and Thurston; all others are rural counties. Under RCW 82.14.370, rural counties are defined as a county with a population density of less than 100 persons per square mile or a county smaller than 225 square miles as determined and published each year by OFM for the period July 1 to June 30.

County and city general fund revenues are defined as the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees and other governmental charges received by the county or city and deposited into the county current expense fund or city general fund, respectively. County and city revenues are estimated from 2007 financial information contained in the Local Government Financial Reporting System (LGFRS) of the Washington State Auditor's Office. Only funds reported within LGFRS as general fund revenues are assumed to be deposited into the county current expense fund or city general fund, and therefore, are included in these estimates.

The following county and city revenue sources

have been excluded from these estimates:

- Federal and state direct and indirect grants.
- State shared taxes or revenues.
- Charges for contracted services performed by counties or cities.
- Charges for enterprise activities or charges that are not governmental in nature.
- Inter-fund and inter-department charges.
- Interest and investment earnings.

County and city general fund revenue growth rates for CYs 2009–15 are related to the state's revenue growth rate by estimating each grouping's five-year historical rate of revenue growth in proportion to the state's revenue growth rate of 4.8 percent.

Inflation estimates for counties and cities are the same as used for the state.

Population growth is defined as the percentage change in the countywide population for counties and the percentage change in citywide population in cities, as reported annually by OFM. County and city population growth is estimated from OFM's 30-Year Forecast of the State Population, adjusted using OFM's Washington State County Growth Management Population Projections: 2000-2030 and each grouping's historic population growth rates. (See page 9, Figures 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5)

### **County and City Costs to Implement - Assumptions**

County and cities will incur indeterminate costs to implement the initiative during CY 2009 and CY 2010 to modify computer systems, establish policies and practices, train employees and respond to requests for public information. Costs will vary by jurisdiction and depend, in large part, on the jurisdiction's ability to modify accounting systems to identify and track revenues subject to the general fund revenue limit.



Figure 1.1 Estimated <b>State</b> Cash Receipts						
Fund	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015
General Fund - State	0	(\$676,000,000)	(\$875,000,000)	(\$1,125,000,000)	(\$1,447,000,000)	(\$1,803,000,000)
Lower State Property Tax Account	0	\$676,000,000	\$875,000,000	\$1,125,000,000	\$1,447,000,000	\$1,803,000,000

Figure 1.2 Estimated <b>Urban County</b> Cash Receipts						
Fund	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015
General Fund - Urban Counties	0	(\$55,000,000)	(\$70,000,000)	(\$87,000,000)	(\$111,000,000)	(\$137,000,000)
Lower County Property Tax Accounts	0	\$55,000,000	\$70,000,000	\$87,000,000	\$111,000,000	\$137,000,000

Figure 1.3 Estimated <b>Rural County</b> Cash Receipts						
Fund	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015
General Fund - Rural Counties	0	(\$24,000,000)	(\$35,000,000)	(\$46,000,000)	(\$58,000,000)	(\$72,000,000)
Lower County Property Tax Accounts	0	\$24,000,000	\$35,000,000	\$46,000,000	\$58,000,000	\$72,000,000

Figure 1.4 Estimated <b>Cities in Urban Counties</b> Cash Receipts						
Fund	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015
General Fund - Cities in Urban Counties	0	(\$176,000,000)	(\$257,000,000)	(\$350,000,000)	(\$463,000,000)	(\$588,000,000)
Lower City Property Tax Accounts	0	\$176,000,000	\$257,000,000	\$350,000,000	\$463,000,000	\$588,000,000

Figure 1.5 Estimated <b>Cities in Rural Counties</b> Cash Receipts						
Fund	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015
General Fund - Cities in Rural Counties	0	(\$30,000,000)	(\$42,000,000)	(\$55,000,000)	(\$72,000,000)	(\$91,000,000)
Lower City Property Tax Accounts	0	\$30,000,000	\$42,000,000	\$55,000,000	\$72,000,000	\$91,000,000

## Statement For Initiative Measure 1033

### **I-1033 CLOSES LOOPHOLES THE LEGISLATURE PUT IN TAXPAYER PROTECTION INITIATIVE 601, VOTER-APPROVED IN 1993**

In 1993, during tough economic times, voters approved I-601, putting reasonable limits on government's fiscal policies, establishing a sustainable rate for government to grow. I-601 worked very well for many years until the Legislature started putting loopholes in it, resulting in major deficits – \$3.2 billion in 2003 – \$9 billion in 2009.

I-1033 reestablishes I-601's same reasonable allowance for growth (inflation plus population growth) and includes a safety valve allowing higher increases with voter approval.

I-1033 gets government off the "fiscal roller coaster," allowing it to grow at a sustainable rate that doesn't outpace taxpayers' ability to afford it.

### **WHAT HAPPENS TO EXCESS TAX REVENUES THAT GOVERNMENT COLLECTS ABOVE I-1033'S LIMIT? AFTER A FIXED ...**

... percentage of tax revenue is transferred into the constitutionally-protected rainy day fund, the remainder of excess tax revenues gets refunded back to taxpayers via lower property taxes. Struggling working families and fixed-income senior citizens desperately need relief from our state's crushing property tax burden. Washington shouldn't be a state where only rich people can afford a home. I-1033 provides needed, long-overdue property tax relief.

### **OPPONENTS WANT HIGHER TAXES AND A STATE INCOME TAX – OPPONENTS ARE AGAINST ANY LIMITS ON ...**

... government's power to take as much as they want from taxpayers. Property taxes keep going higher and higher and government keeps getting bigger and bigger. The people are losing control. I-1033 allows government to grow but at a rate citizens can control and taxpayers can afford. I-1033 is needed now more than ever.

### **WASHINGTON'S THE 8TH HIGHEST TAXED STATE IN THE NATION – I-1033 KEEPS US FROM HITTING #1**

I-1033 reminds politicians that taxpayers don't have bottomless wallets. I-1033 puts a reasonable limit on the growth of government and provides plenty of flexibility (rainy day funds, federal funds, voter-approved revenues). Vote Yes.

### **Rebuttal of Statement Against**

Washington has 16 years of positive experience with I-601 (Colorado's totally different).

Reestablishing I-601's very successful policies helps government, taxpayers, and the economy.

I-1033 provides fiscal discipline and flexibility: any revenue from any source deposited into general funds is limited except voter-approved/rainy day/federal funds for the state and except voter-approved funds for counties/cities.

I-1033 gives control to citizens—if government wants bigger increases, they can ask taxpayers' permission.

Vote Yes.

### **Argument Prepared by**

**Erma Turner**, beauty shop owner, gathered 3699 signatures, Cle Elum, **Steven Bencze**, retired warehouseman, fisherman/hunter, gathered 2568 signatures, Othello, **Mike Dunmire**, husband, community leader, retired businessman, initiative volunteer, Woodinville, **Jack Fagan**, retired policeman, retired navy, grandfather, campaign organizer, Spokane, **Mike Fagan**, small businessman, community leader, father, campaign organizer, Spokane, **Tim Eyman**, \$30 Car Tab Guy, Taxpayer Advocate, Yakima/Mukilteo.

**Contact:** (425) 493-8707; [www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com](http://www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com)

## Statement Against Initiative Measure 1033

### **EYMAN'S LATEST INITIATIVE IS ALREADY A PROVEN FAILURE**

Tim Eyman's latest initiative uses the same failed formula as the "TABOR" law passed in Colorado, which led to deep cuts to public schools, roads and highways, and children's health care. It did so much damage to the state's economy that in 2005, Coloradans voted to suspend the law.

### **I-1033 WILL MAKE IT HARDER FOR US TO DIG OUT OF THE RECESSION**

The national recession has cost our state thousands of jobs and forced billions in cutbacks to important local services, like education and health care. I-1033 will force deeper cuts and lock them in for years – meaning more job losses, more hard times for Washington families, and a longer delay waiting for our economy to recover.

### **MORE BAD NEWS FOR OUR COMMUNITIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES**

I-1033 will make things harder than ever for local communities already struggling to maintain basic services such as road repair, libraries and public safety. Small businesses rely on those services, and oppose I-1033 because they will continue to suffer during a prolonged recession.

### **MORE DAMAGE TO OUR SCHOOLS, AND A DEEPENING HEALTH CARE CRISIS**

This year we've slashed school funding by \$1.5 billion, and as many as 3,000 teachers and education employees are facing layoffs. The Eyman TABOR plan will take even more resources away from Washington's classrooms – and Washington's kids.

Despite a growing senior population, funding for nursing homes, in-home care and adult day health services are being cut – and 40,000 Washington residents of all ages may lose their Basic Health Plan coverage. Eyman's TABOR plan will make our health care crisis more severe.

Times are tough enough already – let's not make them worse. Vote NO on I-1033.

### **Rebuttal of Statement For**

Initiative 1033 will hurt, not help, Washington's senior citizens. That's why AARP Washington and the Washington State Senior Citizens Lobby oppose I-1033. And Initiative 1033 will hurt, not help, working families. That's why the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, Washington State Labor Council, Washington Association of Churches, and many others oppose I-1033. As we try to recover from the worst recession in decades, Washington just can't afford another Tim Eyman initiative. Vote NO on 1033.

### **Argument Prepared by**

**Doug Shadel**, AARP Washington, State Director; **Kelly Fox**, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters, President; **Laura Feshbach**, Co-owner Harmatta Construction Inc, Seattle; **Teri Nicholson**, Registered Nurse, Valley Hospital and Medical Center, Spokane; **Mary Lindquist**, Washington Education Association, high school Social Studies teacher; **Kelley Collen**, Assistant Economics Professor, Eastern Washington University, Cheney.

**Contact:** (206) 200-8969; [www.no1033.com](http://www.no1033.com)

## Complete Text

### Initiative Measure 1033

AN ACT Relating to protecting taxpayers by limiting the tax burden on Washington's citizens; adding a new section to chapter 43.135 RCW; amending RCW 84.52.065; adding new sections to chapter 36.33 RCW; adding new sections to Title 35 RCW; adding new sections to Title 35A RCW; amending RCW 84.52.043; amending RCW 84.55.010; and creating new sections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

#### POLICIES AND PURPOSES

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 1.** This measure is intended to protect taxpayers by reducing our state's obscene and unsustainable property tax burden by controlling the growth of government to an affordable level. It is long overdue. This measure would limit the growth rate of state, county, and city general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, to inflation and population growth. Excess revenue collected above these limits would be used to reduce property taxes. This measure permits the growth of Washington's tax burden to increase at an affordable, sustainable rate, allows citizens to vote for higher taxes where they see a need, and uses excess revenues above this limit to reduce property taxes.

Intent of sections 2(7), 4(7), 6(7) and 8(7): Voter-approved increases in revenue are exempt from this measure's revenue limit. This includes binding votes of the people and does not include a revenue increase approved by an advisory vote. The language of this act is clearly intended to ensure that voter approval of a property tax levy lid lift only exempts the additional increase in property tax revenue and not the base levy.

Intent of sections 2(8), 4(8), 6(8) and 8(8): In order to ensure affordability, sustainability, and predictability of the people's tax burden, the rate of growth of general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, shall not exceed inflation and population growth. The general fund revenue limit for 2010 will be the revenue collected and received in 2009, adjusted for inflation for 2009 and population growth using determinations by the office of financial management in 2009 and 2010 (new voter-approved revenues are exempt). The general fund revenue limit in 2011 will be the general fund revenues received in 2010 that do not exceed the limit for 2010, adjusted for inflation and population growth using determinations by the office of financial management in 2010 and 2011 (new voter-approved revenues are exempt). The people want the revenue limit for any year to be the previous year's general fund revenue plus an adjustment for that year's inflation and population growth. This will ensure that the rate of growth of our tax burden does not exceed the taxpayers' ability to afford it.

Intent concerning inflation and population growth: This measure limits state, county, and city general fund revenue increases, not including new voter-approved increases, to inflation and population growth. The office of financial management reports the bureau of economic analysis' calculation for annual inflation on March 27 following each calendar year; this measure uses that calculation to define inflation. The office of financial management annually develops and tracks populations for the state, counties, and cities and generally reports its determinations each year on June 30. It is an extensive, detailed and long-standing demographic program. This measure defines population growth as the percentage change in population based on those determinations made in the current year and the previous year; this measure uses those calculations to define population growth.

Intent of section 11: Property tax increases are currently

limited to one percent per year. This measure makes no change to the calculation of that limit. Instead, it requires a reduction in property taxes when general fund revenues exceed the revenue limit.

Intent related to reserve accounts: This measure exempts fund transfers in and out of the constitutionally required rainy day fund for the state. In regard to cities and counties, this measure makes no change to the ability of any city or county to use existing and future reserve funds to supplement their general fund revenue when revenue is below their revenue limit.

During these tough economic times, struggling working families and fixed-income senior citizens desperately need and deserve meaningful property tax relief. Property taxes have skyrocketed for decades and politicians have done nothing to address this very real problem. This measure also provides a much-needed economic stimulus to our state's struggling economy by keeping our tax burden at an affordable, sustainable level and by reducing our state's crushing property tax burden. So, this measure ensures meaningful tax relief, a big boost to our state's economy, and long-overdue reform of government. It is a smart, balanced, reasonable solution to our state's property tax problem.

**LIMITING THE TAX BURDEN OF WASHINGTON'S CITIZENS BY LIMITING THE GROWTH OF STATE GOVERNMENT'S GENERAL FUND REVENUE, NOT INCLUDING NEW VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE, TO INFLATION AND POPULATION GROWTH.**

**EXCESS REVENUE ABOVE THIS LIMIT WOULD BE USED TO REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES IMPOSED BY STATE GOVERNMENT**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.135 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The growth rate of state government general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, must be limited to inflation and population growth. As provided in subsection (8) of this section, any revenues received above this limit must be deposited into a new account hereby created called the "Lower State Property Taxes Account." All revenues received during a year which are deposited in this account must be used to reduce the subsequent year's state property tax levy as provided in section 3 of this act.

(2) For purposes of this section, "general fund revenue" means the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees, and other governmental charges received by state government that are deposited in any fund subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025. "General fund revenue" does not include the funds required to be transferred into the fund created under Article 7, Section 12 of the state constitution and does not include funds transferred from that fund. "General fund revenue" does not include revenue received from the federal government.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "inflation" means the annual percentage change in the implicit price deflator for the United States as published on or about March 27

**Continued on page 12**



#### How do I read measure text?

Any language in double parentheses with a line through it is existing state law and will be taken out of the law if the measure is approved by voters. Any underlined language or new sections do not appear in current state law but will be added to the law if the measure is approved by voters.

following each calendar year by the bureau of economic analysis and reported by the office of financial management.

(4) For purposes of this section, "population growth" means the percentage change in the statewide population based on the annual statewide population determinations reported by the office of financial management during the prior calendar year and the current calendar year.

(5) If the cost of any state program or function is shifted from the state general fund or any fund subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025, on or after January 1, 2009, to another source of funding, or if revenue is transferred from the state general fund or any fund subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025 to another fund or account, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of funds subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025, plus the shifted and/or transferred revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(6) If the cost of any state program or function and the revenue to fund the program or function are shifted to the state general fund or any fund subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025, on or after January 1, 2009, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of funds subject to the state expenditure limit under RCW 43.135.025, including the shifted revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(7) For the purposes of this section, "new voter-approved revenue" is defined as the increase in revenue approved by the state's voters at an election after the effective date of this act.

(8) The limit established in subsection (1) of this section must be implemented as follows:

(a) For the first calendar year beginning after the effective date of this act, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in 2009 adjusted by any amount necessary to reflect inflation for the 2009 calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower State Property Taxes Account."

(b) For subsequent years, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in the immediately prior calendar year, less any deposits into the "Lower State Property Taxes Account," adjusted by any amount necessary to reflect inflation for the immediately prior calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower State Property Taxes Account."

**Sec. 3.** RCW 84.52.065 and 1991 sp.s. c 31 s 16 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Subject to the limitations in RCW 84.55.010, in each year the state shall levy for collection in the following year for the support of common schools of the state a tax of three dollars and sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value upon the assessed valuation of all taxable property within the state adjusted to the state equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state department of revenue.

(2) The state property tax levy must be reduced from the amount that could otherwise be levied under subsection (1) of this section by an amount equal to the gross deposits to the "Lower State Property Taxes Account" established in section 2 of this act from the previous year.

(3) The balance of the "Lower State Property Taxes Account" must be transferred each year to the general fund to account for the reduction of the levy as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(4) As used in this section, "the support of common schools" includes the payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued for capital construction projects for the common schools.

LIMITING THE TAX BURDEN OF WASHINGTON'S CITIZENS

BY LIMITING THE GROWTH OF EACH COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUE, NOT INCLUDING NEW VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE, TO INFLATION AND POPULATION GROWTH.

EXCESS REVENUE ABOVE THIS LIMIT WOULD BE USED TO REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES IMPOSED BY EACH COUNTY

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 36.33 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The growth rate of each county government's general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, must be limited to inflation and population growth. As provided in subsection (8) of this section, each county must deposit revenues received above this limit in a new account created by the county called the "Lower County Property Taxes Account." All revenues received during a year which are deposited in this account must be used to reduce the subsequent year's county property tax levy by the amount of gross deposits in the account.

(2) For purposes of this section, "general fund revenue" means the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees, and other governmental charges received by the county that are deposited in the county's current expense fund.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "inflation" means the annual percentage change in the implicit price deflator for the United States as published on or about March 27 following each calendar year by the bureau of economic analysis and reported by the office of financial management.

(4) For purposes of this section, "population growth" means the percentage change in the countywide population based on the annual countywide population determinations reported by the office of financial management during the prior calendar year and the current calendar year.

(5) If the cost of any county program or function is shifted from the county's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, to another source of funding, or if revenue is transferred from the county's current expense fund to another fund or account, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the county's current expense fund plus the shifted and/or transferred revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(6) If the cost of any county program or function and the revenue to fund the program or function are shifted to the county's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the county general fund including the shifted revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(7) For the purposes of this section, "new voter-approved revenue" is defined as the increase in revenue approved by the county's voters at an election after the effective date of this act.

(8) The limit established in subsection (1) of this section must be implemented as follows:

(a) For the first calendar year beginning after the effective date of this act, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in 2009 adjusted by any amount necessary to reflect inflation for the 2009 calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower County Property Taxes Account."

(b) For subsequent years, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in the immediately prior calendar year, less any deposits into the "Lower County Property Taxes Account," adjusted by an amount necessary to reflect inflation for the immediately prior calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower County Property Taxes Account."

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 36.33 RCW to read as follows:

Any county's property tax levy shall be reduced from the



amount that could otherwise be levied under RCW 84.52.043 of this section by an amount equal to the previous year's gross deposits to that county's "Lower County Property Taxes Account" established in section 4 of this act.

**LIMITING THE TAX BURDEN OF WASHINGTON'S CITIZENS BY LIMITING THE GROWTH OF EACH CITY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUE, NOT INCLUDING NEW VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE, TO INFLATION AND POPULATION GROWTH.**

**EXCESS REVENUE ABOVE THIS LIMIT WOULD BE USED TO REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES IMPOSED BY EACH CITY**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 6.** A new section is added to Title 35 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The growth rate of each city government's general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, must be limited to inflation and population growth. As provided in subsection (8) of this section, each city must deposit revenues received above this limit in a new account created by the city called the "Lower City Property Taxes Account." All revenues received during a year which are deposited in this account must be used to reduce the subsequent year's city property tax levy by the amount of gross deposits in the account.

(2) For purposes of this section, "general fund revenue" means the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees, and other governmental charges received by the city that are deposited in the city's current expense fund.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "inflation" means the annual percentage change in the implicit price deflator for the United States as published on or about March 27 following each calendar year by the bureau of economic analysis and reported by the office of financial management.

(4) For purposes of this section, "population growth" means the percentage change in the city wide population based on the annual city wide population determinations reported by the office of financial management during the prior calendar year and the current calendar year.

(5) If the cost of any city program or function is shifted from the city's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, to another source of funding, or if revenue is transferred from the city's current expense fund to another fund or account, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the city's current expense fund plus the shifted and/or transferred revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(6) If the cost of any city program or function and the revenue to fund the program or function are shifted to the city's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the city's current expense fund including the shifted revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(7) For the purposes of this section, "new voter-approved revenue" is defined as the increase in revenue approved by the city's voters at an election after the effective date of this act.

(8) The limit established in subsection (1) of this section must be implemented as follows:

(a) For the first calendar year beginning after the effective date of this act, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in 2009 adjusted by an amount necessary to reflect inflation for the 2009 calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower City Property Taxes Account."

(b) For subsequent years, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in the immediately prior calendar year, less any deposits into the "Lower City Property Taxes Account," adjusted by an amount necessary to reflect inflation for the immediately prior calendar year and population growth,

must be deposited in the "Lower City Property Taxes Account."

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 7.** A new section is added to Title 35 RCW to read as follows:

Any city's property tax levy must be reduced from the amount that could otherwise be levied under RCW 84.52.043 of this section by an amount equal to the gross deposits to that city's "Lower City Property Taxes Account" established in section 6 of this act from the previous year.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 8.** A new section is added to Title 35A RCW to read as follows:

(1) The growth rate of each city government's general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, must be limited to inflation and population growth. As provided in subsection (8) of this section, each city must deposit revenues received above this limit in a new account created by the city called the "Lower City Property Taxes Account." All revenues received during a year which are deposited in this account must be used to reduce the subsequent year's city property tax levy by the amount of gross deposits in the account.

(2) For purposes of this section, "general fund revenue" means the aggregate of revenue from taxes, fees, and other governmental charges received by the city that are deposited in the city's current expense fund.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "inflation" means the annual percentage change in the implicit price deflator for the United States as published on or about March 27 following each calendar year by the bureau of economic analysis and reported by the office of financial management.

(4) For purposes of this section, "population growth" means the percentage change in the city wide population based on the annual city wide population determinations reported by the office of financial management during the prior calendar year and the current calendar year.

(5) If the cost of any city program or function is shifted from the city's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, to another source of funding, or if revenue is transferred from the city's current expense fund to another fund or account, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the city's current expense fund plus the shifted and/or transferred revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(6) If the cost of any city program or function and the revenue to fund the program or function are shifted to the city's current expense fund on or after January 1, 2009, the limit required by this section shall apply to the aggregate of the city's current expense fund including the shifted revenue for that year and all subsequent years.

(7) For the purposes of this section, "new voter-approved revenue" is defined as the increase in revenue approved by the city's voters at an election after the effective date of this act.

(8) The limit established in subsection (1) of this section must be implemented as follows:

(a) For the first calendar year beginning after the effective date of this act, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in 2009 adjusted by an amount necessary to reflect inflation for the 2009 calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower City Property Taxes Account."

(b) For subsequent years, the general fund revenue, not including new voter-approved revenue, received above the amount received in the immediately prior calendar year, less any deposits into the "Lower City Property Taxes Account," adjusted by an amount necessary to reflect inflation for the immediately prior calendar year and population growth, must be deposited in the "Lower City Property Taxes Account."



**NEW SECTION. Sec. 9.** A new section is added to Title 35A RCW to read as follows:

Any city's property tax levy must be reduced from the amount that could otherwise be levied under RCW 84.52.043 of this section by an amount equal to the gross deposits to that city's "Lower City Property Taxes Account" established in section 8 of this act from the previous year.

**Sec. 10.** RCW 84.52.043 and 2005 c 122 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

Within and subject to the limitations imposed by RCW 84.52.050 as amended, the regular ad valorem tax levies upon real and personal property by the taxing districts hereafter named shall be as follows:

(1) Levies of the senior taxing districts shall be as follows:

(a) The levy by the state shall not exceed three dollars and sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value adjusted to the state equalized value in accordance with the indicated ratio fixed by the state department of revenue to be used exclusively for the support of the common schools; (b) the levy by any county shall not exceed one dollar and eighty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; (c) the levy by any road district shall not exceed two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value; and (d) the levy by any city or town shall not exceed three dollars and thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. However any county is hereby authorized to increase its levy from one dollar and eighty cents to a rate not to exceed two dollars and forty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for general county purposes if the total levies for both the county and any road district within the county do not exceed four dollars and five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and no other taxing district has its levy reduced as a result of the increased county levy.

(2) The aggregate levies of junior taxing districts and senior taxing districts, other than the state, shall not exceed five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The term "junior taxing districts" includes all taxing districts other than the state, counties, road districts, cities, towns, port districts, and public utility districts. The limitations provided in this subsection shall not apply to: (a) Levies at the rates provided by existing law by or for any port or public utility district; (b) excess property tax levies authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution; (c) levies for acquiring conservation futures as authorized under RCW 84.34.230; (d) levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical services imposed under RCW 84.52.069; (e) levies to finance affordable housing for very low-income housing imposed under RCW 84.52.105; (f) the portions of levies by metropolitan park districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.120; (g) levies imposed by ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130; (h) levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW 84.52.135; and (i) the portions of levies by fire protection districts that are protected under RCW 84.52.125.

(3) The limitations in subsections (1) and (2) for the levies by the state, counties and cities must be further adjusted as provided in sections 2, 4, 6 and 8 of this act.

**Sec. 11.** RCW 84.55.010 and 2006 c 184 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

Except as provided in this chapter, the levy for a taxing district in any year shall be set so that the regular property taxes payable in the following year shall not exceed the limit factor multiplied by the amount of regular property taxes lawfully levied for such district plus revenues deposited as provided in sections 2(7), 4(7), 6(7) and 8(7) of this act in the highest of the three most recent years in which such taxes were levied for such district plus an additional dollar amount calculated by multiplying the increase in assessed value in that district resulting from new construction,

increases in assessed value due to construction of electric generation wind turbine facilities classified as personal property, improvements to property, and any increase in the assessed value of state-assessed property by the regular property tax levy rate of that district for the preceding year. The adjustments provided in sections 2, 4, 6, and 8 of this act provide a limitation on property tax levies which is in addition to the limit factor in this section.

#### CONSTRUCTION CLAUSE

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 12.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act.

#### SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 13.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 14.** Subheadings used in this act are not part of the law.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 15.** This act shall be known and cited as the Lower Property Taxes Act of 2009.



### Political Party Contact Information

#### Washington State Democrats

PO Box 4027  
Seattle, WA 98194  
(206) 583-0664  
info@wa-democrats.org  
[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)

#### Washington State Republican Party

2840 Northup Way, Ste 140  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(425) 460-0570  
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## Referendum Measure

## 71

Passed by the legislature and ordered referred by petition:

## The legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5688 concerning rights and responsibilities of state-registered domestic partners.

**This bill would expand the rights, responsibilities, and obligations accorded state-registered same-sex and senior domestic partners to be equivalent to those of married spouses, except that a domestic partnership is not a marriage.**

**Should this bill be:**

**Approved**

**Rejected**

Votes cast by the 2009 Legislature on final passage:  
Senate: Yeas, 30; Nays, 18; Absent, 0; Excused, 1.  
House: Yeas, 62; Nays, 35; Absent, 0; Excused, 1.

The Official Ballot Title and the Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The Fiscal Impact Statement was written by the Office of Financial Management as required by law. The Secretary of State is not responsible for the content of arguments or statements



**You are voting to Approve or Reject the bill passed by the Legislature**

**Approve** - you *favor* the bill passed by the Legislature.

**Reject** - you *don't favor* the bill passed by the Legislature.

(WAC 434-381-180). The complete text of Referendum Measure 71 begins on page 19.

## Explanatory Statement

### The Law as it Presently Exists:

The Office of the Secretary of State maintains a domestic partnership registry. Two individuals may enter into a state-registered domestic partnership if the individuals meet certain criteria, including: sharing a common residence, being at least 18 years of age, and being members of the same sex. The domestic partnership is also available to two individuals of the opposite sex if one of the individuals is at least 62 years of age.

Under existing law, a registered domestic partnership is not a marriage because Washington law defines marriage as a civil contract between a male and a female who have each attained the age of 18 years, and who are otherwise capable of entering into marriage.

Existing law provides state-registered domestic partners and partnerships with some of the powers and rights and responsibilities available to married spouses. Such existing powers and rights include health care facility visitation rights, the ability to grant informed consent for health care for a patient who is not competent, title and rights to cemetery plots, and automatic termination of power of attorney upon termination of the state-registered domestic partnership. Domestic partners of public employees are eligible to participate in Public Employees Benefits Board insurance coverage. A certificate of domestic partnership issued by the Office of the Secretary of State fulfills eligibility requirements for the domestic partner of the public employee to receive benefits.

Existing law also addresses certain rights and responsibilities of state-registered domestic partners related to community property, estate planning, taxes, court process, service to indigent veterans and other public assistance, conflicts of interest for public officials, and guardianships.

Under existing law, there are two processes by which domestic partners may terminate the registration and relationship. A domestic partner may file a petition for dissolution in superior court and follow the same procedures applicable to dissolution of marriage. However, registered domestic partners may also use a non-judicial termination process by filing a notice

of termination with the Office of the Secretary of State if, at the time of filing notice, neither registered partner has minor children and neither partner is pregnant; the domestic partnership is not more than five years in duration; the total fair market value of community assets is less than \$25,000; and neither partner has separate property assets in excess of \$25,000.

### **The Effect of the Proposed Measure, if Approved:**

If approved, the measure would amend references in numerous state statutes so that rights, responsibilities, and obligations granted by or imposed by state law on married couples and their families would apply equally to state-registered domestic partners. The terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family, when used in state statutes, would be interpreted as applying equally to state-registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons. Similarly, references to dissolution of marriage would apply equally to state-registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated. Gender specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law would be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state-registered domestic partnerships.

If approved, the measure would not change the statute defining marriage under Washington law. A domestic partnership would not be within the definition of marriage, which would continue to be limited to one man and one woman.

The measure would provide state-registered domestic partners a number of additional powers, rights, and responsibilities such as: the ability to use available sick leave to care for a domestic partner, or to receive wages and benefits where available when a domestic partner is injured; the right to receive unpaid wages upon the death of a domestic partner; the ability to receive unemployment benefits, disability insurance benefits, or workers compensation coverage where such benefits and coverage is provided to married spouses; rights under insurance policies that accrue as a matter of law after the death of a spouse, such as conversion rights and continuing coverage rights; rights and responsibilities related to adoption, child custody, and child support; and rights related to business succession applicable to married spouses.

State agencies would be required to amend

agency rules to ensure that privileges, immunities, rights, benefits, or responsibilities granted or imposed by statute to an individual because that individual is or was a spouse in a marital relationship are granted or imposed on equivalent terms to an individual because that individual is or was in a state-registered domestic partnership.

If approved, the current non-judicial termination process available to domestic partners would be repealed and termination of state-registered domestic partnerships would require a judicial action.

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## **Fiscal Impact Statement**

### **Fiscal Impact Through Fiscal Year 2015**

Referendum 71 would enact legislation, E2SSB 5688, that expands the rights, responsibilities and benefits of registered domestic partners. Referendum 71 would increase state costs by paying for additional worker compensation and crime victim claims benefits; additional state employee pension survivor benefits; and other administrative expenses. Costs are estimated at \$900,000 for fiscal years 2009–11, \$1.5 million for fiscal years 2011–13 and \$1.6 million for fiscal years 2013–15. State revenue from estate taxes estimated at \$260,000 would be reduced in fiscal years 2013–15, while \$7,000 in annual fee revenue would be gained.

### **General Assumptions**

Estimates are based on information provided by state agencies during the 2009 legislative session for Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill (E2SSB) 5688.

Estimates are based on early 2009 data of the number of registered domestic partnerships. There are approximately 5,000 registered domestic partnerships with the Secretary of State. Of that number, 1,500 of those individuals were older than 62, and therefore, could be registered in same-sex or opposite-sex domestic partnerships.

Estimates include costs that were funded in the state budget as well as costs that state agencies were expected to absorb.

Estimates exclude approximately \$15,000 in costs incurred to implement E2SSB 5688 before August 1, 2009.

### State Cost Estimate - Assumptions

For fiscal years 2009–15, the following estimated costs would be incurred:

\$1.1 million - Additional worker compensation and crime victim claim benefits.

\$2.6 million - Additional state employee pension survivor benefits.

\$300,000 - Changes to public rules, information systems, publications and other administrative costs.

Referendum 71 would extend eligibility for public employee health benefits to all registered domestic partnerships. However, the Public Employees Benefits Board has exercised its statutory discretion to extend public employee health benefits to all registered domestic partnerships independent of E2SSB 5688. Therefore, costs estimated by the Health Care Authority for the implementation of E2SSB 5688 are excluded from this estimate.

### State Revenue Estimate – Assumptions

E2SSB 5688 would allow a registered domestic partner to take a marital deduction, which reduces the taxable estate subject to state estate taxes. Referendum 71 would retain domestic partner eligibility for the deduction, resulting in an estimated \$260,000 reduction in revenue in fiscal years 2013–15.

E2SSB 5688 authorizes the Secretary of State to record changes to registered domestic partnerships in the event of a change in address, name change, dissolution or death. There is a \$10 fee for change filings. Referendum 71 would retain this authority, resulting in an estimated \$7,000 gain in fee revenue each year.

### County and City Cost Estimate - Assumptions

While the fiscal impact cannot be determined, counties and cities would incur expenses related to revision of property tax laws, additional court cases and related matters.



#### Address Confidentiality Program

If you are a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and/or stalking who has chosen not to register to vote because you are afraid your perpetrator will track you down through voter registration records, the Office of the Secretary of State has a program that might be able to help you.

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) works together with community domestic violence and sexual assault programs in an effort to keep crime victims safer. The ACP provides participants with a substitute address that can be used when conducting business with state or local government agencies. ACP participants are eligible to register as Protected Records Voters, meaning the registration information is not public record. All ACP participants must be referred to the program by a local domestic violence or sexual assault advocate who can help develop a comprehensive safety plan.

Need more information? Call the ACP toll-free at (800) 822-1065 or visit

[www.secstate.wa.gov/acp](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/acp) .



## Statement For Referendum Measure 71

### THE DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP LAW PROTECTS ALL WASHINGTON FAMILIES

This law ensures that all Washington families have the same protections, rights, and responsibilities as their neighbors. The law guarantees that all families will be treated fairly, especially in times of crisis. Many gay and lesbian couples, often with children, and many senior couples are domestic partners. Often these seniors can't marry without sacrificing needed health and pension benefits. Domestic partnership laws allow them to protect their loved ones.

*"This law provides essential protections to many older couples and to families with children who would otherwise be living without a safety net."*

### WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP LAW?

Death benefits for partners of police and firefighters killed in the line of duty.

Right to use sick leave to care for a seriously ill partner.

Pension benefits for partners of teachers and other public employees.

Victims' rights.

Right to workers' compensation benefits if a partner is killed in the course of employment.

### WHO SUPPORTS THE LAW?

More than 150 organizations, including congregations and faith based organizations and their leaders, all across our state – like the Washington State Nurses Association, Washington Association of Churches, AAUW, Childhaven, Washington State Senior Citizens' Lobby, Associated Ministries of Pierce County, Asian and Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center, Jewish Family Service, Anti-Defamation League, Washington Education Association, Planned Parenthood, Japanese American Citizens League, Lutheran Public Policy Network, SEIU, Latino Political Action Committee, American Federation of Teachers, King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Safe Schools Coalition, Mainstream Republicans, Equal Rights Washington, PFLAG, Young Democrats of Washington, Washington State Bar Association.

They, and we, ask you to vote *Approved* on R-71 - for *All* Washington families.

### Rebuttal of Statement Against

All families should be treated fairly and equally under the law. Committed couples who want to take care of each other should have the protections they need to keep their families safe. They should be allowed to visit each other in the hospital, take family medical leave, have insurance or receive inheritance. Children should be protected when a parent dies. This law does not affect schools or change the definition of marriage in any way.

### Argument Prepared by

**Kelly Fox**, President, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters; **Denise Klein**, Executive Director, Senior Services; **Linnea Hirst**, President, League of Women Voters of Washington; **Paola Maranan**, Executive Director, Children's Alliance; **James Kelly**, CEO, Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle; **Audrey Haberman**, Executive Director, Pride Foundation.

**Contact:** (206) 324-2570; [www.approve71.org](http://www.approve71.org)

## Statement Against Referendum Measure 71

### REJECT SENATE BILL 5688 TO PRESERVE MARRIAGE!

SB 5688 is primarily about homosexual *marriage*—not benefits.

Senator Ed Murray told the *Seattle Times* (Jan. 10, 2007), when announcing the Domestic Partnership Bill, "The goal is *marriage* equality. It's an important statement that our eyes are on the prize, and the prize is *marriage*." Representative Jamie Pedersen told the *Times* (Jan. 28, 2009) that SB 5688 will give homosexuals "a bridge until they can legally marry."

Senator Murray told the *Times* (May 17, 2009) that the domestic partnership expansion (SB 5688) is an "incremental approach...a strategic plan."

SB 5688 is the last incremental step to same-sex *marriage* in Washington State.

### REJECT SENATE BILL 5688 TO PROTECT FAMILIES!

*Marriage* between one man and one woman is the foundation for civilized societies and has been for centuries. *Marriage* does not exist just for the emotional satisfaction of two individuals, but for the greater good of the social order. *Marriage* is about providing the most stable and healthy environment in which to raise children.

### REJECT SENATE BILL 5688 TO PROTECT CHILDREN!

SB 5688 redefines terms such as "husband" and "wife" to be construed as "gender neutral." The new law will confuse children and likely result in public schools influencing children to accept a new definition of the "family unit" so that same-sex partners will be a recognized norm.

### REJECT SENATE BILL 5688 TO PROTECT TAXPAYERS!

If Senate Bill 5688 is implemented, it will mean another massive expansion of government and Washingtonian taxpayers will be stuck with a multi-million dollar bill. Now is not the time to provide more entitlements to a very small minority of the population.

### Rebuttal of Statement For

Statutory benefits are not rights. Those who choose to engage in homosexual relationships already enjoy the exact same constitutional rights and protections all Americans have. Washington has decided to recognize and promote marriage between one man and one woman above other types of relationships. SB 5688 would make our state's Defense of Marriage Act meaningless. Washington State cannot afford to make same-sex partnerships equal to marriage. It's that simple. *Reject SB 5688 to preserve marriage!*

### Argument Prepared by

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## Complete Text

### Referendum Measure 71

AN ACT Relating to further expanding the rights and responsibilities of state registered domestic partners; amending RCW 2.10.030, 6.27.140, 10.77.205, 11.88.030, 26.60.040, 26.60.090, 41.16.010, 41.18.010, 49.78.020, 65.12.035, 71.05.425, 72.09.015, 72.09.712, 72.36.115, 77.36.010, 83.100.046, 83.100.047, and 84.04.050; adding a new section to chapter 26.60 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 34.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 1.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 1.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 2.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 2.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 2.14 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 2.56 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 4.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 4.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 5.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 6.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 6.27 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 7.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 7.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9.58 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9.68A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9.94A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9A.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9A.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9A.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 9A.76 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 10.77 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 10.95 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 10.99 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 10.101 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.42 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.66 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.88 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.94 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.95 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.98 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.104A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 11.108 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 13.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 13.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 13.64 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.35 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.51 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.96 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.118 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.120 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.36 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.72 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.98 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.120 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.205 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 19.225 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 21.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 21.35 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 23B.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 23B.19 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.26 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.27 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.33 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.50 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 30.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 31.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.54 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.88 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 38.42 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 38.52 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.06 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.24 RCW; adding a new section to

chapter 41.26 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.35 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.37 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.50 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.54 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 42.23 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 42.52 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.20B RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.43 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.56 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.180 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.215 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.235 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.21A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.23 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.25 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.29 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.30 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.41 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.43 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.46 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.66 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.76 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.48 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.74 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.77 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.78 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 49.86 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 50.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 51.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 59.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 62A.1 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 65.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 66.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 67.70 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 68.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.02 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.47 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.47A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.58 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.122 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.128 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.190 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 71A.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.23 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.36 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.64 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 72.66 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 73.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.08A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.09A

Continued on page 20



#### How do I read measure text?

Any language in double parentheses with a line through it is existing state law and will be taken out of the law if the measure is approved by voters. Any underlined language or new sections do not appear in current state law but will be added to the law if the measure is approved by voters.

RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.13 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.20A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.41 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 77.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 79A.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 80.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 81.28 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 81.80 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 83.100 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 83.110A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 84.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 85.38 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 87.03 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 89.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 91.08 RCW; repealing RCW 26.60.050 and 26.60.055; and providing effective dates.

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

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 1** A new section is added to chapter 26.60 RCW to read as follows:

It is the intent of the legislature that for all purposes under state law, state registered domestic partners shall be treated the same as married spouses. Any privilege, immunity, right, benefit, or responsibility granted or imposed by statute, administrative or court rule, policy, common law or any other law to an individual because the individual is or was a spouse, or because the individual is or was an in-law in a specified way to another individual, is granted on equivalent terms, substantive and procedural, to an individual because the individual is or was in a state registered domestic partnership or because the individual is or was, based on a state registered domestic partnership, related in a specified way to another individual. The provisions of this act shall be liberally construed to achieve equal treatment, to the extent not in conflict with federal law, of state registered domestic partners and married spouses.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2** A new section is added to chapter 34.05 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this specific purpose, except where inconsistent with federal law or regulations applicable to federal benefit programs, agencies shall amend their rules to reflect the intent of the legislature to ensure that all privileges, immunities, rights, benefits, or responsibilities granted or imposed by statute to an individual because that individual is or was a spouse in a marital relationship are granted or imposed on equivalent terms to an individual because that individual is or was in a state registered domestic partnership.

(2) Except where inconsistent with federal law or regulations applicable to federal benefit programs, all agency orders creating new rules, or amending existing rules, shall be formulated to reflect the intent stated in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) No agency rule is invalid because it does not comply with this section.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 3** A new section is added to chapter 1.12 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this code, with the exception of chapter 26.04 RCW, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral,

and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 4** A new section is added to chapter 1.16 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this code, with the exception of chapter 26.04 RCW, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 5** A new section is added to chapter 2.10 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 6** RCW 2.10.030 and 1997 c 88 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) "Retirement system" means the "Washington judicial retirement system" provided herein.

(2) "Judge" means a person elected or appointed to serve as judge of a court of record as provided in chapters 2.04, 2.06, and 2.08 RCW. "Judge" does not include a person serving as a judge pro tempore except for a judge pro tempore appointed under RCW 2.04.240(2) or 2.06.150(2).

(3) "Retirement board" means the "Washington judicial retirement board" established herein.

(4) "Surviving spouse" means the surviving widow or widower or surviving state registered domestic partner of a judge. "Surviving spouse" does not include the divorced spouse of a judge or an individual whose state registered domestic partnership with the judge has been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated.

(5) "Retirement fund" means the "Washington judicial retirement fund" established herein.

(6) "Beneficiary" means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance, disability allowance or any other benefit described herein.

(7) "Monthly salary" means the monthly salary of the position held by the judge.

(8) "Service" means all periods of time served as a judge, as herein defined. Any calendar month at the beginning or end of a term in which ten or more days are served shall be counted as a full month of service: PROVIDED, That no more than one month's service may be granted for any one calendar month. Only months of service will be counted in the computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit provided for in this chapter. Years of service shall be determined by dividing the total months of service by twelve. Any fraction of a year of service as so determined shall be

taken into account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefit.

(9) "Final average salary" means (a) for a judge in service in the same court for a minimum of twelve consecutive months preceding the date of retirement, the salary attached to the position held by the judge immediately prior to retirement; (b) for any other judge, the average monthly salary paid over the highest twenty-four month period in the last ten years of service.

(10) "Retirement allowance" for the purpose of applying cost of living increases or decreases includes retirement allowances, disability allowances and survivorship benefit.

(11) "Index" means for any calendar year, that year's annual average consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items (1957-1959 equal one hundred) -- compiled by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor.

(12) "Accumulated contributions" means the total amount deducted from the judge's monthly salary pursuant to RCW 2.10.090, together with the regular interest thereon from July 1, 1988, as determined by the director of the department of retirement systems.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 7** A new section is added to chapter 2.12 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 8** A new section is added to chapter 2.14 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 9** A new section is added to chapter 2.56 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 10** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 11** A new section is added to chapter 4.28 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 12** A new section is added to chapter 5.44 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 13** A new section is added to chapter 6.15 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 14** A new section is added to chapter 6.27 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in



state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 15** RCW 6.27.140 and 2003 c 222 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The notice required by RCW 6.27.130(1) to be mailed to or served on an individual judgment debtor shall be in the following form, printed or typed in type no smaller than elite type:

**NOTICE OF GARNISHMENT AND OF YOUR RIGHTS**

A Writ of Garnishment issued in a Washington court has been or will be served on the garnishee named in the attached copy of the writ. After receipt of the writ, the garnishee is required to withhold payment of any money that was due to you and to withhold any other property of yours that the garnishee held or controlled. This notice of your rights is required by law.

**YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTION RIGHTS:**

**WAGES.** If the garnishee is your employer who owes wages or other personal earnings to you, your employer is required to pay amounts to you that are exempt under state and federal laws, as explained in the writ of garnishment. You should receive a copy of your employer's answer, which will show how the exempt amount was calculated. If the garnishment is for child support, the exempt amount paid to you will be forty percent of wages due you, but if you are supporting a spouse, state registered domestic partner, or dependent child, you are entitled to claim an additional ten percent as exempt.

**BANK ACCOUNTS.** If the garnishee is a bank or other institution with which you have an account in which you have deposited benefits such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security, veterans' benefits, unemployment compensation, or a United States pension, you may claim the account as fully exempt if you have deposited only such benefit funds in the account. It may be partially exempt even though you have deposited money from other sources in the same account. An exemption is also available under RCW 26.16.200, providing that funds in a community bank account that can be identified as the earnings of a stepparent are exempt from a garnishment on the child support obligation of the parent.

**OTHER EXEMPTIONS.** If the garnishee holds other property of yours, some or all of it may be exempt under RCW 6.15.010, a Washington statute that exempts up to five hundred dollars of property of your choice (including up to one hundred dollars in cash or in a bank account) and certain property such as household furnishings, tools of trade, and a motor vehicle (all limited by differing dollar values).

**HOW TO CLAIM EXEMPTIONS.** Fill out the enclosed claim form and mail or deliver it as described in instructions on the claim form. If the plaintiff does not object to your claim, the funds or other property that you have claimed as exempt must be released not later than 10 days after the plaintiff receives your claim form. If the plaintiff objects, the law requires a hearing not later than 14 days after the plaintiff receives your claim form, and notice of the objection and hearing date will be mailed to you at the address that you put on the claim form.

**THE LAW ALSO PROVIDES OTHER EXEMPTION RIGHTS. IF NECESSARY, AN ATTORNEY CAN ASSIST YOU TO ASSERT THESE AND OTHER RIGHTS, BUT YOU MUST ACT**

**IMMEDIATELY TO AVOID LOSS OF RIGHTS BY DELAY.**

(2) The claim form required by RCW 6.27.130(1) to be mailed to or served on an individual judgment debtor shall be in the following form, printed or typed in type no smaller than elite type:

[Caption to be filled in by judgment creditor or plaintiff before mailing.]

.....  
Name of Court  
..... No. ....

Plaintiff,  
vs.

..... EXEMPTION CLAIM  
Defendant,

.....  
Garnishee Defendant

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Read this whole form after reading the enclosed notice. Then put an X in the box or boxes that describe your exemption claim or claims and write in the necessary information on the blank lines. If additional space is needed, use the bottom of the last page or attach another sheet.

2. Make two copies of the completed form. Deliver the original form by first-class mail or in person to the clerk of the court, whose address is shown at the bottom of the writ of garnishment. Deliver one of the copies by first-class mail or in person to the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are shown at the bottom of the writ. Keep the other copy. **YOU SHOULD DO THIS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN 28 DAYS (4 WEEKS) AFTER THE DATE ON THE WRIT.**

I/We claim the following money or property as exempt:  
**IF BANK ACCOUNT IS GARNISHED:**

- The account contains payments from:
- Temporary assistance for needy families, SSI, or other public assistance. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- Social Security. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- Veterans' Benefits. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- U.S. Government Pension. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- Unemployment Compensation. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- Child support. I receive \$ . . . . monthly.
- Other. Explain .....

**IF EXEMPTION IN BANK ACCOUNT IS CLAIMED, ANSWER ONE OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- No money other than from above payments are in the account.
- Moneys in addition to the above payments have been deposited in the account. Explain .....

.....  
**IF EARNINGS ARE GARNISHED FOR CHILD SUPPORT:**

- I claim maximum exemption.
- I am supporting another child or other children.
- I am supporting a husband (~~or a~~), wife, or state registered domestic partner.

**IF PENSION OR RETIREMENT BENEFITS ARE GARNISHED:**

- Name and address of employer who is paying the benefits:  
.....

**OTHER PROPERTY:**

- Describe property .....

(If you claim other personal property as exempt, you must attach a list of all other personal property that you own.) . . .

Print: Your name                      If married or in a state registered domestic partnership, name of husband/wife/state registered domestic partner

.....

Your signature                      Signature of husband ((or)), wife, or state registered domestic partner

.....

.....

Address                                  Address (if different from yours)

.....

Telephone number                      Telephone number (if different from yours)

CAUTION: If the plaintiff objects to your claim, you will have to go to court and give proof of your claim. For example, if you claim that a bank account is exempt, you may have to show the judge your bank statements and papers that show the source of the money you deposited in the bank. Your claim may be granted more quickly if you attach copies of such proof to your claim.

IF THE JUDGE DENIES YOUR EXEMPTION CLAIM, YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY THE PLAINTIFF'S COSTS. IF THE JUDGE DECIDES THAT YOU DID NOT MAKE THE CLAIM IN GOOD FAITH, HE OR SHE MAY DECIDE THAT YOU MUST PAY THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY FEES.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 16** A new section is added to chapter 7.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 17** A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 18** A new section is added to chapter 9.58 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to

dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 19** A new section is added to chapter 9.68 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 20** A new section is added to chapter 9.68A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 21** A new section is added to chapter 9.94A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 22** A new section is added to chapter 9A.16 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed



to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 23** A new section is added to chapter 9A.40 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 24** A new section is added to chapter 9A.44 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 25** A new section is added to chapter 9A.76 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 26** A new section is added to chapter 10.77 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 27** RCW 10.77.205 and 2000 c 94 s 17 are each amended to read as follows:

(1)(a) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before conditional release, release,

authorized furlough pursuant to RCW 10.77.163, or transfer to a less-restrictive facility than a state mental hospital, the superintendent shall send written notice of the conditional release, release, authorized furlough, or transfer of a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is now in the custody of the department pursuant to this chapter, to the following:

(i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the person will reside; and

(ii) The sheriff of the county in which the person will reside.

(b) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific person committed under this chapter:

(i) The victim of the crime for which the person was committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

(ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court proceedings; and

(iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney. Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under this chapter.

(c) In addition to the notice requirements of (a) and (b) of this subsection, the superintendent shall comply with RCW 10.77.163.

(d) The thirty-day notice requirement contained in (a) and (b) of this subsection shall not apply to emergency medical furloughs.

(e) The existence of the notice requirements in (a) and (b) of this subsection shall not require any extension of the release date in the event the release plan changes after notification.

(2) If a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is committed under this chapter escapes, the superintendent shall immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the person resided immediately before the person's arrest. If previously requested, the superintendent shall also notify the witnesses and the victim, if any, of the crime for which the person was committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. The superintendent shall also notify appropriate persons pursuant to RCW 10.77.165. If the person is recaptured, the secretary shall send notice to the persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture.

(3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

(4) The department shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.

(5) For purposes of this section the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(c) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children;

(d) "Authorized furlough" means a furlough granted after compliance with RCW 10.77.163;

(e) "Felony harassment offense" means a crime of harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.060 that is a felony.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 28** A new section is added to chapter 10.95 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 29** A new section is added to chapter 10.99 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 30** A new section is added to chapter 10.101 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 31** A new section is added to chapter 11.40 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 32** A new section is added to chapter 11.42 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 33** A new section is added to chapter 11.66 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 34** A new section is added to chapter 11.68 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 35** A new section is added to chapter 11.88 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 36** RCW 11.88.030 and 1996 c 249 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Any person or entity may petition for the appointment of a qualified person, trust company, national bank, or nonprofit corporation authorized in RCW 11.88.020 as the guardian or limited guardian of an incapacitated person. No liability for filing a petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall attach to a petitioner acting in good faith

and upon reasonable basis. A petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall state:

- (a) The name, age, residence, and post office address of the alleged incapacitated person;
- (b) The nature of the alleged incapacity in accordance with RCW 11.88.010;
- (c) The approximate value and description of property, including any compensation, pension, insurance, or allowance, to which the alleged incapacitated person may be entitled;
- (d) Whether there is, in any state, a guardian or limited guardian, or pending guardianship action for the person or estate of the alleged incapacitated person;
- (e) The residence and post office address of the person whom petitioner asks to be appointed guardian or limited guardian;
- (f) The names and addresses, and nature of the relationship, so far as known or can be reasonably ascertained, of the persons most closely related by blood ((or)), marriage, or state registered domestic partnership to the alleged incapacitated person;
- (g) The name and address of the person or facility having the care and custody of the alleged incapacitated person;
- (h) The reason why the appointment of a guardian or limited guardian is sought and the interest of the petitioner in the appointment, and whether the appointment is sought as guardian or limited guardian of the person, the estate, or both;
- (i) A description of any alternate arrangements previously made by the alleged incapacitated person, such as trusts or powers of attorney, including identifying any guardianship nominations contained in a power of attorney, and why a guardianship is nevertheless necessary;
- (j) The nature and degree of the alleged incapacity and the specific areas of protection and assistance requested and the limitation of rights requested to be included in the court's order of appointment;
- (k) The requested term of the limited guardianship to be included in the court's order of appointment;
- (l) Whether the petitioner is proposing a specific individual to act as guardian ad litem and, if so, the individual's knowledge of or relationship to any of the parties, and why the individual is proposed.
- (2)(a) The attorney general may petition for the appointment of a guardian or limited guardian in any case in which there is cause to believe that a guardianship is necessary and no private party is able and willing to petition.
- (b) Prepayment of a filing fee shall not be required in any guardianship or limited guardianship brought by the attorney general. Payment of the filing fee shall be ordered from the estate of the incapacitated person at the hearing on the merits of the petition, unless in the judgment of the court, such payment would impose a hardship upon the incapacitated person, in which case the filing shall be waived.
- (3) No filing fee shall be charged by the court for filing either a petition for guardianship or a petition for limited guardianship if the petition alleges that the alleged incapacitated person has total assets of a value of less than three thousand dollars.
- (4)(a) Notice that a guardianship proceeding has been commenced shall be personally served upon the alleged incapacitated person and the guardian ad litem along with a copy of the petition for appointment of a guardian. Such notice shall be served not more than five court days after the petition has been filed.
- (b) Notice under this subsection shall include a clear and easily readable statement of the legal rights of the alleged

incapacitated person that could be restricted or transferred to a guardian by a guardianship order as well as the right to counsel of choice and to a jury trial on the issue of incapacity. Such notice shall be in substantially the following form and shall be in capital letters, double-spaced, and in a type size not smaller than ten-point type:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

A PETITION TO HAVE A GUARDIAN APPOINTED FOR YOU HAS BEEN FILED IN THE . . . . . COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT BY . . . . . IF A GUARDIAN IS APPOINTED, YOU COULD LOSE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

- (1) TO MARRY ((OR)), DIVORCE, OR ENTER INTO OR END A STATE REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP;
- (2) TO VOTE OR HOLD AN ELECTED OFFICE;
- (3) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR MAKE OR REVOKE A WILL;
- (4) TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF;
- (5) TO SUE AND BE SUED OTHER THAN THROUGH A GUARDIAN;
- (6) TO POSSESS A LICENSE TO DRIVE;
- (7) TO BUY, SELL, OWN, MORTGAGE, OR LEASE PROPERTY;
- (8) TO CONSENT TO OR REFUSE MEDICAL TREATMENT;
- (9) TO DECIDE WHO SHALL PROVIDE CARE AND ASSISTANCE;
- (10) TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING SOCIAL ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE.

UNDER THE LAW, YOU HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY A LAWYER OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING. THE COURT WILL APPOINT A LAWYER TO REPRESENT YOU IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PAY OR PAYMENT WOULD RESULT IN A SUBSTANTIAL HARDSHIP TO YOU.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK FOR A JURY TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED A GUARDIAN TO HELP YOU. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT IN COURT AND TESTIFY WHEN THE HEARING IS HELD TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED A GUARDIAN. IF A GUARDIAN AD LITEM IS APPOINTED, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE COURT TO REPLACE THAT PERSON.

(5) All petitions filed under the provisions of this section shall be heard within sixty days unless an extension of time is requested by a party or the guardian ad litem within such sixty day period and granted for good cause shown. If an extension is granted, the court shall set a new hearing date.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 37** A new section is added to chapter 11.94 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 38** A new section is added to chapter 11.95 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally











domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 65** A new section is added to chapter 26.09 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 66** A new section is added to chapter 26.18 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 67** A new section is added to chapter 26.26 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 68** A new section is added to chapter 26.27 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state

registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 69** A new section is added to chapter 26.28 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 70** A new section is added to chapter 26.33 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 71** RCW 26.60.040 and 2007 c 156 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Two persons desiring to become state registered domestic partners who meet the requirements of RCW 26.60.030 may register their domestic partnership by filing a declaration of state registered domestic partnership with the secretary and paying the filing fee established pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. The declaration must be signed by both parties and notarized.

(2) Upon receipt of a signed, notarized declaration and the filing fee, the secretary shall register the declaration and provide a certificate of state registered domestic partnership to each party named on the declaration.

(3) The secretary shall permanently maintain a record of each declaration of state registered domestic partnership filed with the secretary. The secretary has the authority to update the records to reflect changes in the status of a state registered domestic partnership, such as a change of address, name, dissolution, or death. The secretary shall provide the state registrar of vital statistics with records of declarations of state registered domestic partnerships.

(4) The secretary shall set by rule and collect a reasonable fee for filing the declaration, calculated to cover the secretary's costs, but not to exceed fifty dollars. Fees collected under this section are expressly designated for deposit in the secretary of state's revolving fund established under RCW 43.07.130.

**Sec. 72** RCW 26.60.090 and 2008 c 6 s 1101 are each amended to read as follows:

A legal union of two persons of the same sex, other than a marriage, that was validly formed in another jurisdiction, and that is substantially equivalent to a domestic partnership under this chapter, shall be recognized as a valid domestic partnership in this state and shall be treated the same as a domestic partnership registered in this state regardless of whether it bears the name domestic partnership.





domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 82** A new section is added to chapter 36.88 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 83** A new section is added to chapter 38.42 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 84** A new section is added to chapter 38.52 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 85** A new section is added to chapter 41.04 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state

registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 86** A new section is added to chapter 41.06 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 87** A new section is added to chapter 41.16 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 88** RCW 41.16.010 and 2007 c 218 s 18 are each amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of this chapter, unless clearly indicated by the context, words and phrases shall have the following meaning:

- (1) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person or persons designated by a firefighter in a writing filed with the board, and who shall be entitled to receive any benefits of a deceased firefighter under this chapter.
- (2) "Board" shall mean the municipal firefighters' pension board.
- (3) "Child or children" shall mean a child or children unmarried and under eighteen years of age.
- (4) "Contributions" shall mean and include all sums deducted from the salary of firefighters and paid into the fund as hereinafter provided.
- (5) "Disability" shall mean and include injuries or sickness sustained as a result of the performance of duty.
- (6) "Firefighter" shall mean any person regularly or temporarily, or as a substitute, employed and paid as a member of a fire department, who has passed a civil service examination for firefighter and who is actively employed as a firefighter; and shall include any "prior firefighter."
- (7) "Fire department" shall mean the regularly organized, full time, paid, and employed force of firefighters of the municipality.
- (8) "Fund" shall mean the firefighters' pension fund created herein.
- (9) "Municipality" shall mean every city and town having a regularly organized full time, paid, fire department employing firefighters.
- (10) "Performance of duty" shall mean the performance of work and labor regularly required of firefighters and shall include services of an emergency nature rendered while off regular duty, but shall not include time spent in traveling to



work before answering roll call or traveling from work after dismissal at roll call.

(11) "Prior firefighter" shall mean a firefighter who was actively employed as a firefighter of a fire department prior to the first day of January, 1947, and who continues such employment thereafter.

(12) "Retired firefighter" shall mean and include a person employed as a firefighter and retired under the provisions of chapter 50, Laws of 1909, as amended.

(13) "Widow or widower" means the surviving wife ~~((or)),~~ husband, ~~or state registered domestic partner~~ of a retired firefighter who was retired on account of length of service and who was lawfully married to, ~~or in a state registered domestic partnership with,~~ such firefighter; and whenever that term is used with reference to the wife or former wife ~~((or)),~~ husband or former husband, ~~or current or former state registered domestic partner~~ of a retired firefighter who was retired because of disability, it shall mean his or her lawfully married wife ~~((or)),~~ husband, ~~or state registered domestic partner~~ on the date he or she sustained the injury or contracted the illness that resulted in his or her disability. Said term shall not mean or include a surviving wife ~~((or)),~~ husband, ~~or state registered domestic partner~~ who by process of law within one year prior to the retired firefighter's death, collected or attempted to collect from him or her funds for the support of herself or himself or for his or her children.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 89** A new section is added to chapter 41.18 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 90** RCW 41.18.010 and 2007 c 218 s 41 are each amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of this chapter, unless clearly indicated otherwise by the context, words and phrases shall have the meaning hereinafter ascribed.

(1) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person or persons designated by a firefighter in a writing filed with the board, and who shall be entitled to receive any benefits of a deceased firefighter under this chapter.

(2) "Firefighter" means any person hereafter regularly or temporarily, or as a substitute newly employed and paid as a member of a fire department, who has passed a civil service examination for firefighters and who is actively employed as a firefighter or, if provided by the municipality by appropriate local legislation, as a fire dispatcher: PROVIDED, Nothing in chapter 209, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. shall impair or permit the impairment of any vested pension rights of persons who are employed as fire dispatchers at the time chapter 209, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. takes effect; and any person heretofore regularly or temporarily, or as a substitute, employed and paid as a member of a fire department, and who has contributed under and been covered by the provisions of chapter 41.16 RCW as now or hereafter amended and who has come under the provisions of this chapter in accordance with RCW 41.18.170 and who is actively engaged as a firefighter or as a member of the fire department as a firefighter or fire dispatcher.

(3) "Retired firefighter" means and includes a person employed as a firefighter and retired under the provisions of this chapter.

(4) "Basic salary" means the basic monthly salary, including longevity pay, attached to the rank held by the retired firefighter at the date of his or her retirement, without regard to extra compensation which such firefighter may have received for special duties assignments not acquired through civil service examination: PROVIDED, That such basic salary shall not be deemed to exceed the salary of a battalion chief.

(5) "Widow or widower" means the surviving spouse of a firefighter and shall include the surviving wife ~~((or)),~~ husband, ~~or state registered domestic partner~~ of a firefighter, retired on account of length of service, who was lawfully married to, ~~or in a state registered domestic partnership with,~~ him or to her for a period of five years prior to the time of his or her retirement; and the surviving wife ~~((or)),~~ husband, ~~or state registered domestic partner~~ of a firefighter, retired on account of disability, who was lawfully married to, ~~or in a state registered domestic partnership with,~~ him or her at and prior to the time he or she sustained the injury or contracted the illness resulting in his or her disability. The word shall not mean the divorced wife or husband ~~or former state registered domestic partner~~ of an active or retired firefighter.

(6) "Child" or "children" means a firefighter's child or children under the age of eighteen years, unmarried, and in the legal custody of such firefighter at the time of his death or her death.

(7) "Earned interest" means and includes all annual increments to the firefighters' pension fund from income earned by investment of the fund. The earned interest payable to any firefighter when he or she leaves the service and accepts his or her contributions, shall be that portion of the total earned income of the fund which is directly attributable to each individual firefighter's contributions. Earnings of the fund for the preceding year attributable to individual contributions shall be allocated to individual firefighters' accounts as of January 1st of each year.

(8) "Board" shall mean the municipal firefighters' pension board.

(9) "Contributions" shall mean and include all sums deducted from the salary of firefighters and paid into the fund as hereinafter provided.

(10) "Disability" shall mean and include injuries or sickness sustained by a firefighter.

(11) "Fire department" shall mean the regularly organized, full time, paid, and employed force of firefighters of the municipality.

(12) "Fund" shall have the same meaning as in RCW 41.16.010 as now or hereafter amended. Such fund shall be created in the manner and be subject to the provisions specified in chapter 41.16 RCW as now or hereafter amended.

(13) "Municipality" shall mean every city, town and fire protection district having a regularly organized full time, paid, fire department employing firefighters.

(14) "Performance of duty" shall mean the performance of work or labor regularly required of firefighters and shall include services of an emergency nature normally rendered while off regular duty.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 91** A new section is added to chapter 41.20 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered















a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis, who is: (a) Under eighteen years of age; or (b) eighteen years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

(2) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

(3) "Director" means the director of the department.

(4)(a) "Employee" means a person who has been employed: (i) For at least twelve months by the employer with respect to whom leave is requested under RCW 49.78.220; and (ii) for at least one thousand two hundred fifty hours of service with the employer during the previous twelve-month period.

(b) "Employee" does not mean a person who is employed at a worksite at which the employer as defined in (a) of this subsection employs less than fifty employees if the total number of employees employed by that employer within seventy-five miles of that worksite is less than fifty.

(5) "Employer" means: (a) Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, business trust, legal representative, or other business entity which engages in any business, industry, profession, or activity in this state and includes any unit of local government including, but not limited to, a county, city, town, municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or political subdivision, which employs fifty or more employees for each working day during each of twenty or more calendar workweeks in the current or preceding calendar year; (b) the state, state institutions, and state agencies; and (c) any unit of local government including, but not limited to, a county, city, town, municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or political subdivision.

(6) "Employment benefits" means all benefits provided or made available to employees by an employer, including group life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave, educational benefits, and pensions except benefits that are provided by a practice or written policy of an employer or through an employee benefit plan as defined in 29 U.S.C. Sec. 1002(3).

(7) "Family member" means a child, parent, ((or)) spouse, or state registered domestic partner of an employee.

(8) "Health care provider" means: (a) A person licensed as a physician under chapter 18.71 RCW or an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW; (b) a person licensed as an advanced registered nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW; or (c) any other person determined by the director to be capable of providing health care services.

(9) "Intermittent leave" is leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single qualifying reason.

(10) "Leave for a family member's serious health condition" means leave as described in RCW 49.78.220(1)(c).

(11) "Leave for the birth or placement of a child" means leave as described in RCW 49.78.220(1) (a) or (b).

(12) "Leave for the employee's serious health condition" means leave as described in RCW 49.78.220(1)(d).

(13) "Parent" means the biological or adoptive parent of an employee or an individual who stood in loco parentis to an employee when the employee was a child.

(14) "Period of incapacity" means an inability to work, attend school, or perform other regular daily activities because of the serious health condition, treatment of that condition or recovery from it, or subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care.

(15) "Reduced leave schedule" means a leave schedule that reduces the usual number of hours per workweek, or hours per workday, of an employee.

(16)(a) "Serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:

(i) Inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility, including any period of incapacity; or

(ii) Continuing treatment by a health care provider. A serious health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care provider includes any one or more of the following:

(A) A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves:

(I) Treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider; or

(II) Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider;

(B) Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy, or for prenatal care;

(C) Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:

(I) Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider, or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;

(II) Continues over an extended period of time, including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition; and

(III) May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity;

(D) A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider; or

(E) Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments, including any period of recovery from the treatments, by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer, severe arthritis, or kidney disease.

(b) Treatment for purposes of (a) of this subsection includes, but is not limited to, examinations to determine if a serious health condition exists and evaluations of the condition. Treatment does not include routine physical examinations, eye examinations, or dental examinations. Under (a)(ii)(A)(II) of this subsection, a regimen of continuing treatment includes, but is not limited to, a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment to resolve or alleviate the health condition. A regimen of continuing treatment that includes taking over-the-counter medications, such as aspirin, antihistamines, or salves, or bed-rest, drinking fluids, exercise, and other similar activities that can be initiated without a visit to a health care provider, is not, by itself, sufficient to constitute a regimen of continuing treatment for purposes of this chapter.

(c) Conditions for which cosmetic treatments are administered are not "serious health conditions" unless inpatient hospital care is required or unless complications develop. Unless complications arise, the common cold, the flu, ear aches, upset stomach, minor ulcers, headaches other than migraine, routine dental or orthodontia problems, and periodontal disease are examples of conditions that do not meet the definition of a "serious health condition" and do not qualify for leave under this chapter. Restorative dental or plastic surgery after an injury or removal of cancerous growths are serious health conditions provided all the other



conditions of this section are met. Mental illness resulting from stress or allergies may be serious health conditions provided all the other conditions of this section are met.

(d) Substance abuse may be a serious health condition if the conditions of this section are met. However, leave may only be taken for treatment for substance abuse by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services upon referral by a health care provider. Absence from work because of the employee's use of the substance, rather than for treatment, does not qualify for leave under this chapter.

(e) Absences attributable to incapacity under (a)(ii)(B) or (C) of this subsection qualify for leave under this chapter even though the employee or the immediate family member does not receive treatment from a health care provider during the absence, and even if the absence does not last more than three days.

(17) "Spouse" means a husband or wife, as the case may be, or state registered domestic partner.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 136** A new section is added to chapter 49.86 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 137** A new section is added to chapter 50.04 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 138** A new section is added to chapter 51.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 139** A new section is added to chapter 59.18 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next

of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 140** A new section is added to chapter 59.20 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 141** A new section is added to chapter 59.21 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 142** A new section is added to chapter 59.22 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 143** A new section is added to chapter 62A.1 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved,

or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 144** A new section is added to chapter 65.12 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 145** RCW 65.12.035 and 1907 c 250 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

The form of application may, with appropriate changes, be substantially as follows:

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR INITIAL REGISTRATION OF TITLE TO LAND

State of Washington  
County of . . . . . }

In the superior court of the state of Washington in and for . . . . . county.

In the matter of the  
application of . . . . .

to register the title  
to the land hereinafter  
described } PETITION

To the Honorable . . . . ., judge of said court: I hereby make application to have registered the title to the land hereinafter described, and do solemnly swear that the answers to the questions herewith, and the statements herein contained, are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

First. Name of applicant, . . . . ., age, . . . . . years.  
Residence, . . . . . (number and street, if any). Married to or in a state registered domestic partnership with . . . . . (name of husband ((or)), wife, or state registered domestic partner).

Second. Applications made by . . . . ., acting as . . . . . (owner, agent or attorney). Residence, . . . . . (number, street).

Third. Description of real estate is as follows: . . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .  
estate or interest therein is . . . . . and . . . . . subject to homestead.

Fourth. The land is . . . . . occupied by . . . . . (names of occupants), whose address is . . . . . (number street and town or city). The estate, interest or claim of occupant is . . . . .

Fifth. Liens and incumbrances on the land . . . . . Name of holder or owner thereof is . . . . . Whose post office address is . . . . . Amount of claim, \$. . . . . Recorded, Book . . . . ., page . . . . ., of the records of said county.

Sixth. Other persons, firm or corporation having or claiming any estate, interest or claim in law or equity, in possession, remainder, reversion or expectancy in said land

are . . . . . whose addresses are . . . . . respectively.  
Character of estate, interest or claim is . . . . .

Seventh. Other facts connected with said land and appropriate to be considered in this registration proceeding are . . . . .

Eighth. Therefore, the applicant prays this honorable court to find or declare the title or interest of the applicant in said land and decree the same, and order the registrar of titles to register the same and to grant such other and further relief as may be proper in the premises.

. . . . .  
(Applicant's signature)  
By . . . . ., agent, attorney, administrator or guardian.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this . . . . . day of . . . . ., A.D. 19. . .

. . . . .  
Notary Public in and for the state  
of Washington, residing at . . . . .

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 146** A new section is added to chapter 66.24 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 147** A new section is added to chapter 67.70 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 148** A new section is added to chapter 68.04 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 149** A new section is added to chapter 70.02 RCW to read as follows:





to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 158** RCW 71.05.425 and 2008 c 213 s 10 are each amended to read as follows:

(1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, at the earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before conditional release, final release, authorized leave under RCW 71.05.325(2), or transfer to a facility other than a state mental hospital, the superintendent shall send written notice of conditional release, release, authorized leave, or transfer of a person committed under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) following dismissal of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) to the following:

(i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the person will reside; and

(ii) The sheriff of the county in which the person will reside.

(b) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific person committed under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) following dismissal of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4):

(i) The victim of the sex, violent, or felony harassment offense that was dismissed pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) preceding commitment under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

(ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court proceedings; and

(iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney.

Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under this chapter.

(c) The thirty-day notice requirements contained in this subsection shall not apply to emergency medical transfers.

(d) The existence of the notice requirements in this subsection will not require any extension of the release date in the event the release plan changes after notification.

(2) If a person committed under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3)(c) following dismissal of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) escapes, the superintendent shall immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the person resided immediately before the person's arrest. If previously requested, the superintendent shall also notify the witnesses and the victim of the sex, violent, or felony harassment offense that was dismissed pursuant to RCW 10.77.086(4) preceding commitment under RCW 71.05.280(3) or 71.05.320(3) or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. In addition, the secretary shall also notify appropriate parties pursuant to RCW 71.05.390(18). If the person is recaptured, the superintendent shall send notice to the persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture.

(3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parent or legal guardian of the child.

(4) The superintendent shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.

(5) For purposes of this section the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(c) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children;

(d) "Felony harassment offense" means a crime of harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.060 that is a felony.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 159** A new section is added to chapter 71.09 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 160** A new section is added to chapter 71.12 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 161** A new section is added to chapter 71.32 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 162** A new section is added to chapter 71A.20 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does

not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 163** A new section is added to chapter 72.01 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 164** A new section is added to chapter 72.09 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 165** RCW 72.09.015 and 2008 c 231 s 47 are each amended to read as follows:

The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Adult basic education" means education or instruction designed to achieve general competence of skills in reading, writing, and oral communication, including English as a second language and preparation and testing services for obtaining a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma.

(2) "Base level of correctional services" means the minimum level of field services the department of corrections is required by statute to provide for the supervision and monitoring of offenders.

(3) "Community custody" has the same meaning as that provided in RCW 9.94A.030 and also includes community placement and community supervision as defined in RCW 9.94B.020.

(4) "Contraband" means any object or communication the secretary determines shall not be allowed to be: (a) Brought into; (b) possessed while on the grounds of; or (c) sent from any institution under the control of the secretary.

(5) "County" means a county or combination of counties.

(6) "Department" means the department of corrections.

(7) "Earned early release" means earned release as authorized by RCW 9.94A.728.

(8) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had multiple-site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations demonstrating that the program or practice is effective in reducing recidivism for the population.

(9) "Extended family visit" means an authorized visit between an inmate and a member of his or her immediate family that occurs in a private visiting unit located at the correctional facility where the inmate is confined.

(10) "Good conduct" means compliance with department rules and policies.

(11) "Good performance" means successful completion of a program required by the department, including an education, work, or other program.

(12) "Immediate family" means the inmate's children, stepchildren, grandchildren, great grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, great grandparents, siblings, and a person legally married to or in a state registered domestic partnership with an inmate. "Immediate family" does not include an inmate adopted by another inmate or the immediate family of the adopted or adopting inmate.

(13) "Indigent inmate," "indigent," and "indigency" mean an inmate who has less than a ten-dollar balance of disposable income in his or her institutional account on the day a request is made to utilize funds and during the thirty days previous to the request.

(14) "Individual reentry plan" means the plan to prepare an offender for release into the community. It should be developed collaboratively between the department and the offender and based on an assessment of the offender using a standardized and comprehensive tool to identify the offender's risks and needs. The individual reentry plan describes actions that should occur to prepare individual offenders for release from prison or jail, specifies the supervision and services they will experience in the community, and describes an offender's eventual discharge to aftercare upon successful completion of supervision. An individual reentry plan is updated throughout the period of an offender's incarceration and supervision to be relevant to the offender's current needs and risks.

(15) "Inmate" means a person committed to the custody of the department, including but not limited to persons residing in a correctional institution or facility and persons released from such facility on furlough, work release, or community custody, and persons received from another state, state agency, county, or federal jurisdiction.

(16) "Privilege" means any goods or services, education or work programs, or earned early release days, the receipt of which are directly linked to an inmate's (a) good conduct; and (b) good performance. Privileges do not include any goods or services the department is required to provide under the state or federal Constitution or under state or federal law.

(17) "Promising practice" means a practice that presents, based on preliminary information, potential for becoming a research-based or consensus-based practice.

(18) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the standard of evidence-based practices.

(19) "Secretary" means the secretary of corrections or his or her designee.

(20) "Significant expansion" includes any expansion into a new product line or service to the class I business that results from an increase in benefits provided by the department, including a decrease in labor costs, rent, or utility rates (for water, sewer, electricity, and disposal), an increase in work program space, tax advantages, or other overhead costs.

(21) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of a correctional facility under the jurisdiction of the Washington state department of corrections, or his or her designee.

(22) "Unfair competition" means any net competitive advantage that a business may acquire as a result of a correctional industries contract, including labor costs, rent, tax advantages, utility rates (water, sewer, electricity,

and disposal), and other overhead costs. To determine net competitive advantage, the correctional industries board shall review and quantify any expenses unique to operating a for-profit business inside a prison.

(23) "Vocational training" or "vocational education" means "vocational education" as defined in RCW 72.62.020.

(24) "Washington business" means an in-state manufacturer or service provider subject to chapter 82.04 RCW existing on June 10, 2004.

(25) "Work programs" means all classes of correctional industries jobs authorized under RCW 72.09.100.

**Sec. 166** RCW 72.09.712 and 2008 c 231 s 27 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before release except in the event of escape or emergency furloughs as defined in RCW 72.66.010, the department of corrections shall send written notice of parole, release, community custody, work release placement, furlough, or escape about a specific inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, to the following:

(a) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the inmate will reside or in which placement will be made in a work release program; and

(b) The sheriff of the county in which the inmate will reside or in which placement will be made in a work release program.

The sheriff of the county where the offender was convicted shall be notified if the department does not know where the offender will reside. The department shall notify the state patrol of the release of all sex offenders, and that information shall be placed in the Washington crime information center for dissemination to all law enforcement.

(2) The same notice as required by subsection (1) of this section shall be sent to the following if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110:

(a) The victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

(b) Any witnesses who testified against the inmate in any court proceedings involving the violent offense;

(c) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney; and

(d) Any person who requests such notice about a specific inmate convicted of a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 from the department of corrections at least sixty days prior to the expected release date of the offender.

Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the inmate. Whenever the department of corrections mails notice pursuant to this subsection and the notice is returned as undeliverable, the department shall attempt alternative methods of notification, including a telephone call to the person's last known telephone number.

(3) The existence of the notice requirements contained in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall not require an extension of the release date in the event that the release plan changes after notification.

(4) If an inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, or a felony harassment offense as defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, escapes from a correctional facility, the department of corrections

shall immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the inmate resided immediately before the inmate's arrest and conviction. If previously requested, the department shall also notify the witnesses and the victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. If the inmate is recaptured, the department shall send notice to the persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture.

(5) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

(6) The department of corrections shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.

(7) The department of corrections shall keep, for a minimum of two years following the release of an inmate, the following:

(a) A document signed by an individual as proof that that person is registered in the victim or witness notification program; and

(b) A receipt showing that an individual registered in the victim or witness notification program was mailed a notice, at the individual's last known address, upon the release or movement of an inmate.

(8) For purposes of this section the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered domestic partner, parents, siblings and children.

(9) Nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a chief of police of a city or sheriff of a county for failing to request in writing a notice as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 167** A new section is added to chapter 72.23 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 168** A new section is added to chapter 72.36 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state



registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 169** RCW 72.36.115 and 2007 c 43 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The department shall establish and maintain in this state an eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

(2) All honorably discharged veterans, as defined by RCW 41.04.007, and their spouses or state registered domestic partners are eligible for interment in the eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

(3) The department shall collect all federal veterans' burial benefits and other available state or county resources.

(4) The department shall adopt rules defining the services available, eligibility, fees, and the general operations associated with the eastern Washington state veterans' cemetery.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 170** A new section is added to chapter 72.64 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 171** A new section is added to chapter 72.66 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 172** A new section is added to chapter 73.16 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 173** A new section is added to chapter 74.04 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in

state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 174** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 175** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 176** A new section is added to chapter 74.09A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 177** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement

this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. Nothing in this act shall be construed as creating or requiring the creation of any medical assistance program, as that term is defined in RCW 74.09.010, for state registered domestic partners that is analogous to federal medical assistance programs extended to married persons.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 178** A new section is added to chapter 74.15 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. Nothing in this act shall be construed as creating or requiring the creation of any medical assistance program, as that term is defined in RCW 74.09.010, for state registered domestic partners that is analogous to federal medical assistance programs extended to married persons.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 179** A new section is added to chapter 74.20 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 180** A new section is added to chapter 74.20A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 181** A new section is added to chapter 74.34 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to

dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 182** A new section is added to chapter 74.41 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 183** A new section is added to chapter 77.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 184** RCW 77.36.010 and 1996 c 54 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

Unless otherwise specified, the following definitions apply throughout this chapter:

(1) "Crop" means a commercially raised horticultural and/or agricultural product and includes growing or harvested product but does not include livestock. For the purposes of this chapter all parts of horticultural trees shall be considered a crop and shall be eligible for claims.

(2) "Emergency" means an unforeseen circumstance beyond the control of the landowner or tenant that presents a real and immediate threat to crops, domestic animals, or fowl.

(3) "Immediate family member" means spouse, state registered domestic partner, brother, sister, grandparent, parent, child, or grandchild.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 185** A new section is added to chapter 79A.05 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed

to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 186** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 187** A new section is added to chapter 81.28 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 188** A new section is added to chapter 81.80 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 189** A new section is added to chapter 82.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 190** A new section is added to chapter 83.100 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next

of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 191** RCW 83.100.046 and 2005 c 514 s 1201 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) For the purposes of determining the Washington taxable estate, a deduction is allowed from the federal taxable estate for:

(a) The value of qualified real property reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction in respect of the qualified real property and tangible personal property under section 2053(a)(4) of the internal revenue code, if the decedent was at the time of his or her death a citizen or resident of the United States.

(b) The value of any tangible personal property used by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family for a qualified use on the date of the decedent's death, reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction in respect of the tangible personal property under section 2053(a)(4) of the internal revenue code, if all of the requirements of subsection (10)(f)(i)(A) of this section are met and the decedent was at the time of his or her death a citizen or resident of the United States.

(c) The value of real property that is not deductible under (a) of this subsection solely by reason of subsection (10)(f)(i)(B) of this section, reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction in respect of the qualified real property and tangible personal property under section 2053(a)(4) of the internal revenue code, if the requirements of subsection (10)(f)(i)(C) of this section are met with respect to the property and the decedent was at the time of his or her death a citizen or resident of the United States.

(2) Property shall be considered to have been acquired from or to have passed from the decedent if:

(a) The property is so considered under section 1014(b) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(b) The property is acquired by any person from the estate; or

(c) The property is acquired by any person from a trust, to the extent the property is includible in the gross estate of the decedent.

(3) If the decedent and the decedent's surviving spouse at any time held qualified real property as community property, the interest of the surviving spouse in the property shall be taken into account under this section to the extent necessary to provide a result under this section with respect to the property which is consistent with the result which would have obtained under this section if the property had not been community property.

(4) In the case of any qualified woodland, the value of trees growing on the woodland may be deducted if otherwise qualified under this section.

(5) If property is qualified real property with respect to a decedent, hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the "first decedent," and the property was acquired from or passed from the first decedent to the surviving spouse of the first decedent, active management of the farm by the surviving spouse shall be treated as material participation by the surviving spouse in the operation of the farm.

(6) Property owned indirectly by the decedent may



qualify for a deduction under this section if owned through an interest in a corporation, partnership, or trust as the terms corporation, partnership, or trust are used in section 2032A(g) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to qualify for a deduction under this subsection, the interest, in addition to meeting the other tests for qualification under this section, must qualify under section 6166(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code as an interest in a closely held business on the date of the decedent's death and for sufficient other time, combined with periods of direct ownership, to equal at least five years of the eight-year period preceding the death.

(7)(a) If, on the date of the decedent's death, the requirements of subsection (10)(f)(i)(C)(II) of this section with respect to the decedent for any property are not met, and the decedent (i) was receiving old age benefits under Title II of the social security act for a continuous period ending on such date, or (ii) was disabled for a continuous period ending on this date, then subsection (10)(f)(i)(C)(II) of this section shall be applied with respect to the property by substituting "the date on which the longer of such continuous periods began" for "the date of the decedent's death" in subsection (10)(f)(i)(C) of this section.

(b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, an individual shall be disabled if the individual has a mental or physical impairment which renders that individual unable to materially participate in the operation of the farm.

(8) Property may be deducted under this section whether or not special valuation is elected under section 2032A of the Internal Revenue Code on the federal return. For the purposes of determining the deduction under this section, the value of property is its value as used to determine the value of the gross estate.

(9)(a) In the case of any qualified replacement property, any period during which there was ownership, qualified use, or material participation with respect to the replaced property by the decedent or any member of the decedent's family shall be treated as a period during which there was ownership, use, or material participation, as the case may be, with respect to the qualified replacement property.

(b) Subsection (9)(a) of this section shall not apply to the extent that the fair market value of the qualified replacement property, as of the date of its acquisition, exceeds the fair market value of the replaced property, as of the date of its disposition.

(c) For the purposes of this subsection (9), the following definitions apply:

(i) "Qualified replacement property" means any real property:

(A) Which is acquired in an exchange which qualifies under section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code; or

(B) The acquisition of which results in the nonrecognition of gain under section 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The term "qualified replacement property" only includes property which is used for the same qualified use as the replaced property was being used before the exchange.

(ii) "Replaced property" means the property was:

(A) Transferred in the exchange which qualifies under section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code; or

(B) Compulsorily or involuntarily converted within the meaning of section 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(10) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Active management" means the making of the management decisions of a farm, other than the daily operating decisions.

(b) "Farm" includes stock, dairy, poultry, fruit, furbearing animal, and truck farms; plantations; ranches; nurseries; ranges; greenhouses or other similar structures used

primarily for the raising of agricultural or horticultural commodities; and orchards and woodlands.

(c) "Farming purposes" means:

(i) Cultivating the soil or raising or harvesting any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the raising, shearing, feeding, caring for, training, and management of animals on a farm;

(ii) Handling, drying, packing, grading, or storing on a farm any agricultural or horticultural commodity in its unmanufactured state, but only if the owner, tenant, or operator of the farm regularly produces more than one-half of the commodity so treated; and

(iii)(A) The planting, cultivating, caring for, or cutting of trees; or

(B) The preparation, other than milling, of trees for market.

(d) "Member of the family" means, with respect to any individual, only:

(i) An ancestor of the individual;

(ii) The spouse or state registered domestic partner of the individual;

(iii) A lineal descendant of the individual, of the individual's spouse or state registered domestic partner, or of a parent of the individual; or

(iv) The spouse or state registered domestic partner of any lineal descendant described in (d)(iii) of this subsection.

For the purposes of this subsection (10)(d), a legally adopted child of an individual shall be treated as the child of such individual by blood.

(e) "Qualified heir" means, with respect to any property, a member of the decedent's family who acquired property, or to whom property passed, from the decedent.

(f)(i) "Qualified real property" means real property which was acquired from or passed from the decedent to a qualified heir of the decedent and which, on the date of the decedent's death, was being used for a qualified use by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family, but only if:

(A) Fifty percent or more of the adjusted value of the gross estate consists of the adjusted value of real or personal property which:

(i) On the date of the decedent's death, was being used for a qualified use by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family; and

(ii) Was acquired from or passed from the decedent to a qualified heir of the decedent;

(B) Twenty-five percent or more of the adjusted value of the gross estate consists of the adjusted value of real property which meets the requirements of (f)(i)(A)(ii) and (f)(i)(C) of this subsection; and

(C) During the eight-year period ending on the date of the decedent's death there have been periods aggregating five years or more during which:

(i) The real property was owned by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family and used for a qualified use by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family; and

(ii) There was material participation by the decedent or a member of the decedent's family in the operation of the farm. For the purposes of this subsection (f)(i)(C)(ii), material participation shall be determined in a manner similar to the manner used for purposes of section 1402(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(ii) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "adjusted value" means:

(A) In the case of the gross estate, the value of the gross estate, determined without regard to any special valuation under section 2032A of the Internal Revenue Code, reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction under section

2053(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code; or

(B) In the case of any real or personal property, the value of the property for purposes of chapter 11 of the Internal Revenue Code, determined without regard to any special valuation under section 2032A of the Internal Revenue Code, reduced by any amounts allowable as a deduction in respect of such property under section 2053(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(g) "Qualified use" means the property is used as a farm for farming purposes. In the case of real property which meets the requirements of (f)(i)(C) of this subsection, residential buildings and related improvements on the real property occupied on a regular basis by the owner or lessee of the real property or by persons employed by the owner or lessee for the purpose of operating or maintaining the real property, and roads, buildings, and other structures and improvements functionally related to the qualified use shall be treated as real property devoted to the qualified use. For tangible personal property eligible for a deduction under subsection (1)(b) of this section, "qualified use" means the property is used primarily for farming purposes on a farm.

(h) "Qualified woodland" means any real property which:

(i) Is used in timber operations; and

(ii) Is an identifiable area of land such as an acre or other area for which records are normally maintained in conducting timber operations.

(i) "Timber operations" means:

(i) The planting, cultivating, caring for, or cutting of trees; or

(ii) The preparation, other than milling, of trees for market.

**Sec. 192** RCW 83.100.047 and 2005 c 516 s 13 are each amended to read as follows:

(1)(a) If the federal taxable estate on the federal return is determined by making an election under section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code, or if no federal return is required to be filed, the department may provide by rule for a separate election on the Washington return, consistent with section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code and (b) of this subsection, for the purpose of determining the amount of tax due under this chapter. The election shall be binding on the estate and the beneficiaries, consistent with the Internal Revenue Code and (b) of this subsection. All other elections or valuations on the Washington return shall be made in a manner consistent with the federal return, if a federal return is required, and such rules as the department may provide.

(b) The department shall provide by rule that a state registered domestic partner is deemed to be a surviving spouse and entitled to a deduction from the Washington taxable estate for any interest passing from the decedent to his or her domestic partner, consistent with section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code but regardless of whether such interest would be deductible from the federal gross estate under section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) Amounts deducted for federal income tax purposes under section 642(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986(;;) shall not be allowed as deductions in computing the amount of tax due under this chapter.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 193** A new section is added to chapter 83.110A RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved,

or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 194** A new section is added to chapter 84.04 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**Sec. 195** RCW 84.04.050 and 1961 c 15 s 84.04.050 are each amended to read as follows:

"Householder" shall be taken to mean and include every person, married, in a state registered domestic partnership, or single, who resides within the state of Washington being the owner or holder of an estate or having a house or place of abode, either as owner or lessee.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 196** A new section is added to chapter 85.38 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 197** A new section is added to chapter 87.03 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 198** A new section is added to chapter 89.12 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered

domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 199** A new section is added to chapter 91.08 RCW to read as follows:

For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement this act, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 200** The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) RCW 26.60.050 (Termination -- Records -- Fees) and 2008 c 6 s 1002 & 2007 c 156 s 6; and

(2) RCW 26.60.055 (Termination) and 2008 c 6 s 1001.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 201** (1) Sections 5 through 8, 79, 87 through 103, 107, 151, 173 through 175, and 190 through 192 of this act take effect January 1, 2014.

(2) Sections 165 and 166 of this act take effect August 1, 2009.

## Voters' Pamphlet Art Contest

Students in grades 4-5 are invited to enter the Voters' Pamphlet Art Contest. Submit your original art by April 16, 2010. The winning art will appear in the 2010 General Election Voters' Pamphlet.



For information and complete contest rules, visit [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and click on "Just 4 YOU."

## Make your voice heard Answer the Census

The U.S. Constitution requires a population count every 10 years, a kind of national snapshot of who we are as a nation.

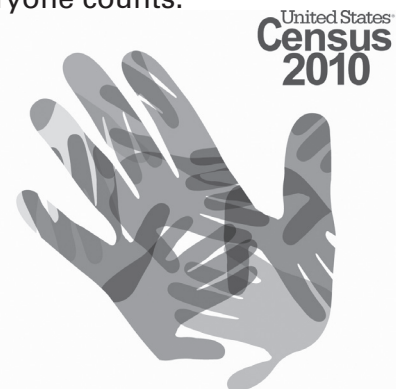
The Census Bureau hopes for 100 percent participation in Washington State when the Census is conducted next spring. Questionnaires will be mailed in March.

### Why bother?

The updated information is very important. It is used to distribute more than \$300 billion in federal funds fairly every year to plan for new hospitals, schools and other vital services. It also helps a bipartisan citizen redistricting commission draw new equal-sized legislative and congressional districts that reflect the population growth and shifts over the past decade.

You'll be asked to complete a questionnaire with a few basic facts about the people in your household. It's safe, easy, and confidential.

Remember, everyone counts.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS



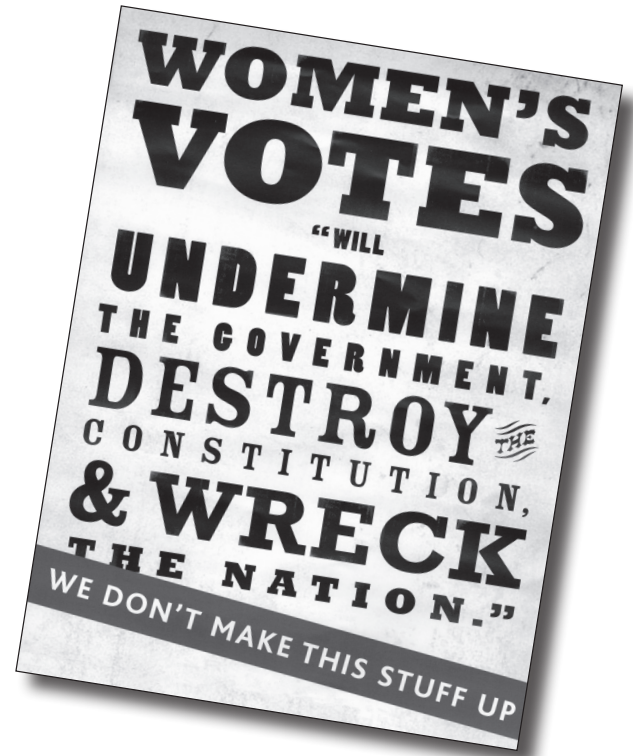
# A Century of Women Voting 1910-2010

## Women's Suffrage Museum Exhibit

### Women's Votes, Women's Voices

Visit the Washington Women's Suffrage Centennial Exhibit, organized by the Washington State Historical Society and the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture. The exhibit provides interactive and in-depth information about the history of women voters in Washington, and will be exhibited through 2011 at the following venues.

<b>Now – January 10, 2010</b> Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center	<b>July 17, 2010 – October 3, 2010</b> Museum of History and Industry, Seattle
<b>February 11, 2010 – June 20, 2010</b> Yakima Valley Museum	<b>October 30, 2010 – June 26, 2011</b> Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, Spokane



—Rev. Mark Matthews

For more information about Women's Suffrage in Washington State, visit the Washington Women's History Consortium at [www.washingtonwomenshistory.org](http://www.washingtonwomenshistory.org).

<b>1848</b> <b>A Call for Women's Rights</b> The first U.S. women's rights convention is held at Seneca Falls, New York. Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and others officially call for women's right to vote (also called "suffrage").	<b>1870</b> <b>First Votes Cast</b> A group of south Thurston County women decide to test their rights as citizens and successfully vote in a local election.	<b>1883</b> <b>Voting Rights Granted</b> The Washington Territorial Legislature approves women's right to vote.	<b>1889</b> <b>Washington Becomes a State</b> Washington is admitted to the Union on November 11. The state Constitution maintains that women can vote in school elections.
<b>1853</b> <b>Suffrage Fails in Territorial Legislature</b> Women's suffrage is regularly proposed in the Legislature, but fails to pass.	<b>1877</b> <b>Women Vote in School Elections</b> The Legislature specifies that all taxpaying resident citizens, male or female, can cast ballots in school district contests.	<b>1888</b> <b>Suffrage Overturned</b> Women's suffrage is overturned by the Territorial Supreme Court.	



Women putting up posters in the 1910 Washington suffrage campaign. (Photo provided by the Washington State Historical Society, [www.washingtonhistory.org](http://www.washingtonhistory.org))



Noted Territorial era suffragist, Mary Olney Brown. She and her sister, Emily Olney French, organized the 1870 vote in Thurston County. (Photo provided by the Washington State Historical Society, [www.washingtonhistory.org](http://www.washingtonhistory.org))



Emma Smith DeVoe, suffrage campaign leader. (Photo provided courtesy of the Tacoma Public Library, #TPL-8717, [www.tpl.lib.wa.us](http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us))



May Arkwright Hutton, suffrage campaign leader. (Photo provided by the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture/EWSHS, Spokane, [www.northwestmuseum.org](http://www.northwestmuseum.org))

**1910 Women Win the Vote**

Washington's male voters approve women's suffrage by constitutional amendment, paving the way for many Western states that soon followed.

**1993 Women Legislators Top in Nation**

Washington is top ranked nationally for percentage of women legislators for 12 consecutive years.

**2009 Washington Suffragists Receive Medal of Merit**

Emma Smith DeVoe and May Arkwright Hutton are posthumously awarded the Washington State Medal of Merit.

**1898 Male Voters Reject Women's Right to Vote**

Voters reject a suffrage amendment passed by the Legislature in 1897.

**1920 U.S. Women Win Right to Vote**

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution grants women the right to vote nationally.

**2004 Top Three are Women**

Washington becomes the only state with woman Governor and two women U.S. Senators.

**2010 Washington Celebrates 100 Years of Women Voting**



## Will you be ready to vote for real?

Take this quiz to see if you know the basics about voting.

- 1 **How do we pick our political leaders in the United States?**
  - A. We draw straws.
  - B. Duck, duck, goose.
  - C. Vote.
- 2 **Why is voting important?**
  - A. It is my right.
  - B. It is my responsibility.
  - C. It is how I make my voice heard.
- 3 **What do you need to do in order to vote?**
  - A. Register.
  - B. Ask for permission.
  - C. Buy the forms.
- 4 **How old do you need to be in order to vote?**
  - A. 16
  - B. 17 ½
  - C. 18
- 5 **When did women in Washington State gain the right to vote?**
  - A. 1883
  - B. 1910
  - C. 1920

Answers: 1: C; 2: A, B, and C; 3: A; 4: C; 5: B

## Kids can vote in the 2009 Student Mock Election!

It's easy!

Vote online anytime the week of October 26 - 30.

It's free!

Go to [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and click on "Just 4 YOU" for more information and to vote.

It's fast!

See how other Washington students voted. Results are posted online after noon on Friday, October 30.

Teachers, download free classroom materials at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov).

## Elections Word Search

Find the 10 elections-related words in the chart below.

P	E	R	U	T	A	N	G	I	S	O	R
X	I	R	T	P	R	I	M	A	R	Y	B
O	Y	O	V	M	A	Y	O	E	E	W	E
B	U	T	I	O	N	C	T	X	B	A	L
P	G	I	N	L	T	S	Y	R	A	S	P
O	S	D	R	U	I	B	V	B	L	H	P
R	L	U	S	G	O	H	O	T	L	I	A
D	S	A	E	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	S
O	W	R	L	O	W	T	E	C	T	G	M
R	P	S	O	I	N	A	G	X	I	T	A
L	I	A	M	Y	B	E	T	O	V	O	I
Y	B	P	M	A	T	S	I	G	L	N	N

Drop Box  
Vote by Mail  
Elections  
Washington  
Signature

Register  
Ballot  
Auditor  
Primary  
County



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# Skagit County's 2009 Voters' Pamphlet

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## Letter from Skagit County Auditor Jeanne Youngquist

Welcome to Skagit County's section of the 2009 Voters' Pamphlet. In the following pages you will find submissions from your local candidates, ballot instructions, and ballot drop box locations. Please take the time to use this pamphlet and other resources as a tool to help in your voting decisions. Learn who represents you in your city, cemetery, fire, hospital, port, school, sewer, and water districts.

2009 is an odd year election. In odd year elections, candidates are primarily non-partisan, that is, they are not usually affiliated with a political party. They serve in cities, towns, and special districts throughout our great county. These Mayors, Council members and Board members are responsible for serving and making decisions that affect your security, safety, and the future of your community. There are also important future-affecting initiatives on the ballot.

Skagit County is an all vote-by-mail county. In addition to putting your ballot in the mail, ballot drop boxes are located in major cities and towns throughout Skagit County. In the 2008 Presidential Election, these boxes were used by 45% of our voters, a figure that far exceeded our expectations.

Our goal is to provide a secure, accurate, efficient and economical election process and to encourage citizens to exercise their freedom to influence the future of our communities and our country. Visit our web site and learn about the current election, election history, and other assorted election information <http://www.skagitcounty.net>. On the web site you will find this Voter's Pamphlet and links to:

- ★ The Washington Secretary of State's web site
- ★ Skagit County ballot drop box locations
- ★ On-line Voter Registration.

Please also take a minute to visit our Auditor's home page and learn more about the Auditor's other departments, Accounting, Licensing, and Recording. Please call us with any questions, we are glad to help.

***Your vote counts – remember, you make the difference!***

***Jeanne Youngquist***  
***Skagit County Auditor***



## Ballot Drop-Off Locations

**The following ballot drop-off locations are open as soon as you receive your ballot.  
All drop-off locations close at 8:00 pm on lection night!**

Anacortes Library  
1220 10<sup>th</sup> St  
Anacortes

Mount Vernon South  
Courthouse Horseshoe Parking Lot  
700 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St  
Mount Vernon

Burlington Parks and Recreation Building  
900 E. Fairhaven St  
Burlington

Mount Vernon North  
Mount Vernon Police Department  
1805 Continental Pl  
Mount Vernon

Concrete Skagit Upriver Services/Library  
45770 A Main St  
Concrete

Sedro-Woolley Post Office-Side of Building  
111 Woodworth St

La Conner Library  
614 E. Morris St  
La Conner

Sedro-Woolley  
(In the alley between Eastern Ave and Metcalf)

*Postage is not needed for drop boxes*

You may also drop your ballot off at:  
**Elections Department**  
Skagit County Auditor's Office  
2<sup>nd</sup> & Kincaid Streets (700 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street), Mount Vernon  
**Open 8:30-4:30 Week Days**

## Ballot Instructions

- Use a black or blue pen to mark your ballot
- To vote your choice in each contest, completely fill in the box to the left of your choice.
- To vote for a write-in candidate, completely fill in the box to the left of the words "Write-in" and write in the name of the candidate on the line provided.
- If you make an error, please "X" out the incorrect vote and mark the box corresponding to the correct choice. You may also call the Skagit County Elections Department at (360) 336-9305 to request a new ballot.
- Complete and sign the declaration on the return envelope. If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have it witnessed by TWO people. Make sure they both sign the envelope.

- Place your voted ballot in the white secrecy envelope, seal that envelope, then place the white secrecy envelope in the lavender colored return envelope and seal that envelope.
- Affix First Class postage to the return envelope.
- Your ballot must be postmarked no later than Election Day, November 3, 2009. Make sure you know the last pick-up time of your post office – ballots deposited after that time on Election Day are postmarked the next day and are not counted!
- Be sure you sign the return envelope!

If you do not want to mail your ballot, you may drop it off at the ballot drop-off locations listed above



## All Offices and Candidates 2009

Following is a list of all Skagit County offices and candidates in the November, 2009 General Election; this list is complete through Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Candidates whose names are followed by an asterisk (“\*”) submitted statements for this Voters’ Pamphlet; these statements follow in the next section of this pamphlet.

### City of Anacortes

#### Mayor

1. Steve Sonnenberg\*
2. H. Dean Maxwell\*

#### Council Ward 4, At-Large

1. Brian E. Geer

#### Council Ward 5, At-Large

1. Cynthia Richardson

#### Council Ward 6, At-Large

1. Bill Turner

#### Council Ward 7, At-Large

1. Erica Pickett\*

### City of Burlington

#### Council At-Large

1. Steve Sexton
1. Helen M. Doyle\*

#### Council Ward 4

1. Tony Bieche

#### Council Ward 5

1. Chris Loving

#### Council Ward 6

1. Bill Aslett\*

### Town of Concrete

#### Mayor

1. Judd Wilson

#### Council Position 2

1. Paul Wayne Rider

#### Council Position 5

1. Jason Miller

### Town of Hamilton

#### Council Position 4

1. Andrew O. Jenson
2. Harold V. Pitts

#### Council Position 5

1. Tamara McGrady

### Town of La Conner

#### Council Position 1

1. Jacques Brunisholz\*

#### Council Position 2

1. Kathie Hubbard

#### Council Position 3

1. Cindy Tracey\*
2. Mark K. Pederson\*

#### Council Position 4

1. Marilyn S. Johnson\*
2. Stuart Welch\*

### Town of Lyman

#### Council Position 1

1. Edward E. Hills
2. Marty Wicks

#### Council Position 2

1. Rod Hodgkin

#### Council Position 4

1. Jada Trammell\*

### City of Mount Vernon

#### Council At-Large

1. Doris Brevoort\*
3. Dale Ragan\*

#### Council Ward 1

1. Kenneth Quam\*
2. Kathy Combs\*

#### Council Ward 2

1. Gary Molenaar\*
2. John C. Cheney Jr.

#### Council Ward 3

1. Robert Fiedler

### City of Sedro-Woolley

1. Dennis P. London\*
2. Brett C. Sandstrom\*

#### Council Ward 2

1. Tony Splane

#### Council Ward 3

1. Thomas E. Storrs

#### Council Ward 6

1. Rick Lemley

## All Offices and Candidates 2009

### **Cemetery District Commissioners**

#### **Cemetery District 1**

Position 1

1. Gail Thulen

Position 3

1. Curtis Buher

#### **Cemetery District 2**

Position 1

1. John Pinquoch

#### **Cemetery District 3**

Position 1

1. Michael E. Jackets

#### **Cemetery District 4**

Position 1

1. Claire H. Hansen

#### **Cemetery District 5**

Position 1

1. Dave H. Wright

#### **Cemetery District 6**

Position 1

1. D. Scott Thompson

### **Fidalgo Park and Recreation District**

#### **Commissioner Position 2**

1. Heather Burke

#### **Commissioner Position 3**

1. Pamela R. Lambeth

#### **Commissioner Position 5**

1. Andrew Olson

### **Fire Protection District Commissioners**

#### **Fire District 2**

1. Jerry Ekkelkamp

#### **Fire District 3**

Position 3

1. Vic Benson
2. Travis Coulter

#### **Fire District 4**

Position 3

1. Gary Friend

#### **Fire District 5**

Position 1

1. Kirk M. Damon

#### **Position 3**

1. David Lohman

#### **Fire District 6**

Position 3

1. Steven Omdal\*
2. David Smoots\*

#### **Fire District 7**

Position 3

1. Scott A. Lemke

#### **Fire District 8**

Position 3

1. Terry E. Bowser
2. Jonathan H LaCount\*

#### **Fire District 9**

Position 3

1. Dean Shelton

#### **Fire District 11**

Position 1

1. Cherry Dennis

Position 3

1. Thomas Walsh\*

#### **Fire District 12**

Position 13

1. Norm Jenkins

#### **Fire District 13**

Position 1

1. Jim Grove

Position 2

1. Allen (Skip) Cooper\*

Position 3

1. Chuck Hedlund

#### **Fire District 14**

Position 2

1. James L. Hobbs Jr.

Position 3

1. Marty Coble\*
2. Michael Nemnich

#### **Fire District 17**

Position 3

1. Richard T. (Nick) Nicolls

#### **Fire District 19**

Position 3

1. Howard O. Stafford

#### **Fire District 24 (Snohomish**

County)

Position 2

1. Holley Ross

## All Offices and Candidates 2009

### Hospital District Commissioners

#### Hospital District 1

Position 1

1. Bronwyn Pickering\*

Position 6

1. Pattie Lewis\*

Position 7

1. Bruce G. Lisser\*

#### Hospital District 2

Position 2

1. Cecil "Buzz" Ely Jr.

Position 3

1. Paul Maughan\*

#### Hospital District 304

Position 1

1. David G. Walker

### Port District Commissioners

#### Port of Anacortes District 1

1. Roger Born\*
2. Ray Niver\*

#### Port of Anacortes District 2

1. John Prosser\*
2. Bill Short\*

#### Port of Anacortes District 5

1. Keith Rubin\*
2. Guy Davidson\*

#### Port of Skagit County District 3

1. Wm. J. Bill Shuler\*
2. Glenn Allen

### School District Directors

#### Anacortes School District #103

Director District 1

1. Mitch Everton

Director District 2

1. Kris Lytton\*

Director District 5

1. Karl W. Yost
2. Robert W. Hyde\*

#### Burlington School District #100

Director District 2

1. Michael Jon Dynes

Director District 5

1. Bradley Whaley\*
2. Dick Spink

#### Concrete School District #11

Director District 1

1. Rae (Crissie) Wilson

Director District 3

1. Vincent Hedrick

Director District 4

1. Lucille Claybo
2. Bill Thompson\*

#### Conway School District #317

Director Position 2

1. Rod Dalseg

Director Position 3

1. Diane C. Robertson

#### Darrington School District #330

Director District 4, At-Large

1. Andrew Hatfield
2. Roy E. Bryson

#### Director District 5, At-Large

1. Douglas R. Lenker
2. Jentry L. Wright

#### La Conner School District #311

Director District 3

1. Brad K. Smith

Director District 5

1. John Thulen\*
2. Dixie Otis\*

#### Mount Vernon School District #320

Director District 4

1. Luanne Burkhart

Director District 5

1. Charles Guildner

#### Sedro-Woolley School District #101

Director District 1

1. Jim Kallio

Director District 4

1. David Carroll

Director District 5

1. Mike Janicki
2. Robert Hickman

### Sewer District Commissioners

#### Sewer District 1

Position 2

1. Robert Christensen

#### Sewer District 2

Position 3

1. Gerald Severson

#### Bullerville Utility District

Position 3

1. Madrene Clark

### Water District Commissioners

Water District 1

Position 1

1. Josh Guffie



**City of Anacortes, Mayor**



**H. Dean Maxwell**

I seek re-election as Mayor of Anacortes as part of my long-standing commitment to the health, sustainability and well being of our wonderful community. As all are painfully aware, these are difficult economic times. Since the mayor is responsible for all city departments and their operations, I would be remiss leaving this position when our community most needs qualified, experienced leadership

coupled with the history to help guide us forward. I am proud of my administration's record of 16 years of prudent, balanced budgets, unqualified audits and healthy fund reserves that have made dealing with this economic downturn far less painful for our community. My established relationships with Local, State and Federal officials have brought great value to our community – new parks and trail improvements, dollars for sheltering the needy families, providing for adult day care, infrastructure dollars for the Port of Anacortes and Dakota Creek Industries and, for a second time in ten years, we successfully saved the International Ferry Run from Anacortes to Sidney, British Columbia. As we embark on a community-wide discussion in the "Anacortes Futures Project" I look forward to adding my sense of our history and my collective perspective and experience to this process.



**Steve Sonnenberg**

Why Sonnenberg? Why now? Anacortes is entering a time of great change. We know we will face revenue shortfalls by 2012, but economic development remains a part-time function of the Planning Department. Sales tax revenues and construction permits have been in decline for years, while substantial and valuable tracts of land lie fallow, providing no jobs, no tax

revenues, and no positive impact to our quality of life. The Anacortes Futures Project sets forth a master plan development process which, in the right hands, can be used to navigate us through this present predicament and beyond. The city's existing 'comprehensive plan' simply does not meet this need. Steve Sonnenberg has managed his law firms consistently, prudently, and profitably for more than thirty years, and through three severe economic downturns in the broader economy. He has managed both expansion and contraction, by focusing on the long-term health of his business and its clients. Sonnenberg and his family moved to Anacortes because this is a special place. Preserving and sustaining the quality of life in our community in the face of change requires a special set of skills. Steve Sonnenberg is ready, willing, and able to help us all meet the future.

**City of Anacortes, City Council, Ward 7**



**Erica Pickett**

The eldest of five children, Erica Pickett was born and raised in Seattle. She attended Esbjerg Statsskole in Denmark, Skagit Valley College and the University of Washington. Erica is retired from business, having established Flounder Bay Boat Shop with her husband in 1971. The business was renamed Flounder Bay Boat Lumber Company in about 1979. Erica served on the first Anacortes Community Forest Lands Advisory Board and was

instrumental in establishing the Conservation Easement Program. She served on the Planning Commission for twenty years before being elected to the Anacortes City Council in 2005. Erica will work to be sure that Anacortes remains a city where all have a place: native and newcomer, resident and visitor, elder and toddler. Anacortes stands to play a big part in a future which will depend on innovation in the fields of energy, transportation and medicine. We are fortunate to have a good balance of career professionals and skilled craftspeople as well as a group of dedicated volunteers, all committed to working to maintain this vital mixture of energies and directions.

**Unopposed**

**City of Burlington, City Council, At-Large**

**Steve Sexton**

**No candidate submission**


**Helen M. Doyle**

Now isn't the time to change the guard after they have accomplished wonders (new fire station, new police station, new city hall, and new library). The present council works well together. Being a member with 12 years experience, I want to continue doing my part.

**City of Burlington, City Council, Ward 6**

**Bill Aslett**

I look forward to working together with the citizens of Burlington to overcome the challenges we face and continue to make Burlington a great place to live, work and play. We are faced with significant obstacles in the coming years and we need to show prudent financial management to deliver the level of service our citizens deserve. Thank you for your support.

**Unopposed**

**Town of LaConner, Town Council, Position 1**



**Jacques Brunisholz**

Dear constituents,  
I am Jacques Brunisholz:

- Fifty-seven years old
- La Conner resident since 1980
- La Conner high school teacher
- Married, two grown children

I was nominated to the City Council last year, to replace my former opponent Mike Murdoch who moved out of town. My primary

focus remains to close the dike gap in order to better protect La Conner from potential floods. While economic growth is a priority during a recession, we should not lose the vision we have for the uniqueness of La Conner and growth has to remain orderly, with the interests of residents coming first.

I hope to deserve your vote,  
Thank you.

**Unopposed**

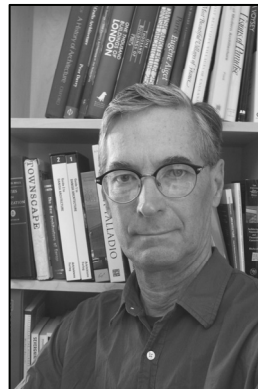
**Town of LaConner, Town Council, Position 3**



**Cindy Tracey**

*I Love La Conner!* A unique and special place and I am dedicated to keeping it that way. I enjoy the peace and quiet, of small town living with the added charm of world class restaurants and shops. It's a gift to be able to walk to my dentist and doctor. As an owner of a historical home, I am the steward of this special place and only one of many generations to come who will

care for and cherish the house that Captain John Peck built in 1882. I have always felt it is my duty to give back to the community. My goal as a Town Councilwoman will be to support and represent the residents of La Conner. I will serve with an open mind, avoiding personal agendas while working closely with my fellow Council members and our mayor to make the Town of La Conner the best it can be for all of us. I am excited and honored to have the opportunity to represent my fellow residents in the La Conner community. For now and in the future, "I am always available for your input and suggestions and look forward to your calls and emails."



**Mark K. Pederson**

I am running for Council only as a citizen of LaConner, not a representative of any business organization. I believe a Councilperson should represent all the residents of town, while hearing the concerns of the business community. That being said, I think I'm well qualified as a long-time citizen and businessperson to help shape a common-sense, sustainable, prosperous future for LaConner. With progress and

change we must be careful that our town's unique character is not compromised by new projects, while preserving the unique qualities which make LaConner the fine place to live that we all enjoy. I have been an Architect in LaConner for over 30 years on First Street by the Post Office. I have lived in town for 7 years, most recently in the remodeled old Gaches house near City Hall. In those 30 years, having attended scores of Council meetings, I have developed a high regard for the Council's role in our government. I served on the Parks Commission and that experience encouraged me to run for Mayor several years ago. I will be a strong advocate for LaConner's citizens and a supporter of the business community's interests when consistent with the welfare of the residents.



## Town of LaConner, Town Council, Position 4



**Marilyn S. Johnson**

I am running for re-election to continue to represent the people of La Conner. My accessibility as a grocery store checker keeps me in daily touch with my constituents and their concerns. I know first hand how jobs have been cut, savings are being depleted, and expendable income has disappeared. My commitment is to continue to maximize the return on

our property tax dollars, while providing necessary services and infrastructure for a healthy and vibrant La Conner!



**Stuart Welch**

The Qualities of a Small Town Life are what La Conner residents treasure. I hope we can enhance a stronger sense of community. I am proposing, doing away with fees for town residents for the use of Pioneer Park . We can Create a low interest revolving loan fund from monies generated from the sale of compost to help residents make their buildings more energy

efficient. . In these difficult economic times fiscal responsibility is key to helping town residents and the business community

## Town of Lyman, Town Council, Position 4



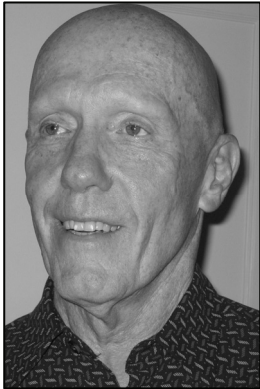
**Jada Trammell**

As a citizen of the Town of Lyman, I am committed to help in any way I can to assure the Town of Lyman continue with their hard-work and efforts of ensuring the Town is operated in a professional, productive and efficient manner. I have enjoyed serving on the Town Council the past year and a half and I would be honored to serve as the Town of Lyman's Council Position

#4.

**Unopposed**

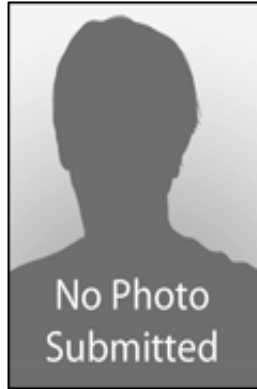
**City of Mount Vernon, City Council, At-Large**



**Dale Ragan**

I will continue working to make Mount Vernon a safe, attractive, and well managed city. City government’s major responsibility should be to provide an efficient and dependable public infrastructure. This includes streets, their lighting, trash disposal, sewer, library, fire department, police, courts and care of public parks. I will pursue the efficient and effective use of taxpayer resources, fiscal policy that reflects a commitment

to limited taxation, keeping as much money as possible in the pockets of the taxpaying citizens. Open and transparent government is a must and I support the concept without reservation. Farming is of prime importance to our area, and I don’t support expanding our city into any farm land. There is considerable acreage in our city that is zoned for commercial use that is empty or a good candidate for re-development, and I support pursuing that option. Comprehensive flood protection for the whole city is extremely important, and expensive. It requires that Mount Vernon develop relationships not only with all areas impacted by the Skagit River, but with state and federal government officials, because they are the key for long-term funding. I will continue to be active in pursuit of that goal



**Doris Brevoort**

I bring a new voice and welcoming energy to the City Council. I will increase communication— among people in neighborhoods, and between Mount Vernon residents and City Council. I will organize opportunities such as open houses around the city to hear your concerns. I continue to advocate for revitalization of downtown Mount Vernon as a place for families to eat, shop, enjoy the arts, and honor our city's

heritage through the Main Street program. I support responsible residential and retail development in Mount Vernon with an emphasis on wise use of the land and energy conservation in design and materials. I will advocate for ample funding for essential city services including the fire department, parks, and library. I serve on the Skagit Transit Citizens Advisory Committee. I have been a school counselor and teacher for over twenty years. I have a Masters of Education in School Counseling and certification in school administration. As a small business owner I have worked for years on management teams responsible for budgeting, planning and promotion. I have strong communication and administrative skills to bring to the City Council. Please see my vision for Mount Vernon at [www.dorisbrevoort.com](http://www.dorisbrevoort.com) or call me at 336-2972. Thank you!

**City of Mount Vernon, City Council, Ward 1**



**Kenneth Quam**

If you vote for Ken I will make sure that we have a representation of what the Ward 1 and Mount Vernon citizens want. This is the list of our priorities: public safety, fire, and police. With the way building has gone on in Mount Vernon our fire department and police department need our support. Mount Vernon city budget needs to be monitored

in this time of recession. Growth in Mount Vernon needs to be watched. I firmly believe that the pud is the way to go. As far as commercial growth I am an advocate of preserving farmland in Skagit county. In flood management of Mount Vernon it is imperative that we restore relations with FEMA and all related agencies. Now voters here is where it gets good. I was always taught in high school and college that our government is by the people for the people. If elected I will start a website that will let you vote on issues so that I can vote the way you want me to. There may be times that I don't agree with it but I will represent you the way you want me to. Thank you.



**Kathy Combs**

**No Statement Submitted**

**City of Mount Vernon, City Council, Ward 3**



**John C. Cheney Jr**

**No Candidate Submission**



**Gary Molenaar**

Dear Community,  
 My name is Gary Molenaar; I am a 48-year life long resident of Mount Vernon. What a great city we live in! With its close proximity to the sound, river, and mountains, we have an awesome opportunity to preserve our wonderful city. With this, comes challenges as well. Three issues I see facing Mount Vernon are: 1) keeping growth in a responsible balance with economic progression. 2)

Keeping our city a safe refuge for our families and children. 3) Using our taxpayer's money in the most efficient yet effective way. My wife, three daughters, and I graduated from Mount Vernon High School and I graduated from WSU with a degree in Criminal Justice. I currently own Ken's Hairstyling in the heart of down town and have worked there for 25 years. I have had the opportunity to experience the pulse of our city by the many people that I have come in contact with. Running this business I have the fiscal experience that is necessary to keep our city on track during these hard economic times. I take these challenges seriously and look forward to working together to keep this city a wonderful place we call home.

**City of Sedro-Woolley, City Council, At-Large**



**Brett C. Sandstrom**

Three key values set me apart as leader for Council At-large of Sedro-Woolley: **Responsible Growth**-Sedro-Woolley is on the cusp of a major growth spurt, but growth shouldn't come to the detriment of our schools and neighborhoods. I believe our city can grow in a way that maintains the safety and charm we love, prevents sprawl, and accommodates business. **Public**

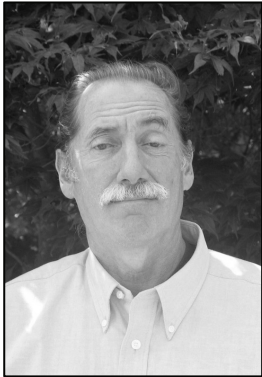
**Accountability**- City leaders must be accountable to their constituents. My job on the City Council will be to work for the goodwill and success of Sedro-Woolley. I WILL address every concern and work for solutions to every problem Sedro-Woolley faces. I WILL represent everyone. **Service in the Community**-Since 2007 I have represented Sedro-Woolley as Planning Commissioner forming rules and standards that shape our city's future. Each year we celebrate what makes Sedro-Woolley great and since 2006 it has been an honor to serve as Loggerodeo's Board Secretary. As a father of a young child I realize that our children need more advantages, leadership roles, and safe places, so I've helped form Teen-Space and serve as Board Treasurer. Knowing the successes and failures of our past is important, so I actively volunteer and serve as Board-member for the Sedro-Woolley Museum.



**Dennis P. London**

Since becoming Councilman at Large Sedro-Woolley has a new City Hall, sewer moratorium has been lifted, over forty acres of park land has been acquired for future use, a site for fire station 2 has been purchased and major infrastructure projects have been initiated. Also, in these tough economic times budget controls have been implemented to protect the solvency and services of the City without burdening taxpayers further. In fact, this year the City did not increase property taxes at all. Sedro-Woolley is a very unique community challenged by the same issues every small community across the County is dealing with such as the current economic down turns and ongoing growth. Growth will continue to be an issue within Sedro-Woolley requiring a council able to provide a calm balance between residential, business and industry. As a former negotiator I believe my abilities to problem solve provides an important part in the function of the Sedro-Woolley City Council. The Council at Large represents all of Sedro-Woolley; it's like a wild card position. All registered voters of Sedro-Woolley get to vote on this position and I would appreciate your support.

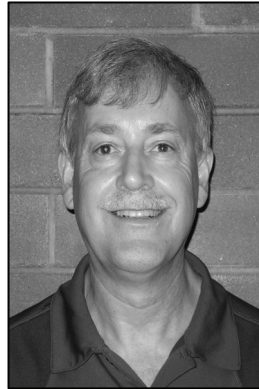
**Fire District 6, Commissioner Position 3**



**David Smoots**

As a 20+ year resident of Fire District 6, like most residents here, I have always relied on Burlington’s Fire Department to protect my home. Due to the recent contract difficulties between the Fire District 6 commissioners and the City of Burlington I have worked diligently with a citizens group: our goal was to renew an agreement between the two parties amenable to both while maintaining optimal service and public safety for the

residents of Fire District 6. In my role as a part of this team, I have worked successfully with the Burlington mayor, city council, city attorney, and fire chief; this will be beneficial in future negotiations as we develop a long term solution for Fire District 6 residents. In my ongoing involvement I have become knowledgeable with the budgeting of Fire District 6 and the operation of a fire station. I have a strong background in preparing budgets as an Estimator and Project Manager for multimillion dollar construction projects. My career experience will allow me to work well with the other Fire District 6 commissioners to create accurate budgets enabling Fire District 6 to run smoothly and efficiently while providing quality essential services to its residents.



**Steven Omdal**

I am a lifelong Skagit Valley resident, raised and educated in this area and running for the position of Fire District Commissioner / District 6. Skagit County has undergone many changes in my lifetime and we have all experienced how these changes impact our daily lives. It is my belief that the governmental services provided must benefit the majority

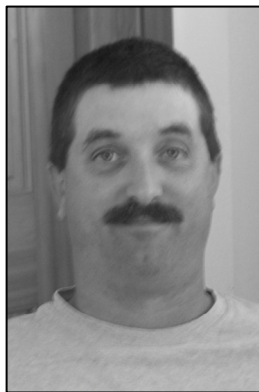
of our citizens while being held accountable to the taxpayers. My goal is to provide for the citizens of District 6, fire protection services that reflect an effective balance between appropriate fire fighting needs and emergency medical services while maximizing staff and equipment usage. If elected, I will provide appropriate oversight for my constituents assuring that their tax dollars are allocated in the most efficient, effective and responsible manner possible. Thank you!

**Fire District 8, Commissioner Position 3**



**Terry E. Bowser**

**No Candidate Submission**



**Jonathan H LaCount**

As a life long citizen of Skagit Fire District 8 I have not only made it my life’s mission to look out for our community but also to give the time it takes to do the best job possible. As commissioner I will be able to help in continuing this work to keep us safe in our community through judgment decisions that are made at the elected official’s level. I believe conducting business

in an open format is very important so that our community stays informed of decisions being made that may affect their safety. If elected I will do my very best to make decisions necessary to keep our communities safety at the upmost first priority.



**Fire District 11, Commissioner Position 3**

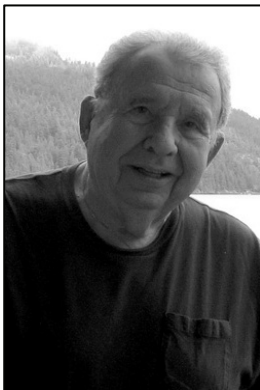


**Thomas Walsh**

My goal is to insure the highest quality Fire and EMS response within the district consistent within a fiscally conservative policy.

**Unopposed**

**Fire District 13, Commissioner Position 2**



**Allen (Skip) Cooper**

Seeking Position #2 as Fire Commissioner of Skagit County Fire District #13. I have served as Fire Commissioner with Skagit County Fire District #13 since mid-2008. During my tenure, I have worked with the Board to participate and accomplished: Assisted in the development of a Ten Year, Long Term Strategic Plan for the Fire District. Participated in the planning and design of the first District Fire Station in over fifty years. Insisted on a balanced budget and fought to protect taxpayers' money. Assisted in obtaining a new Brush Truck via grant from Department of Natural Resources. Assisted in obtaining at no cost to our taxpayers a mobile air refill station. Been an active member in the Skagit and Washington State Fire Commissioners Association. Continues to assist and provide leadership to our local and national Firewise U.S.A Communities. I enjoy working with the Fire District #13 Board and its volunteer Firefighters and would like to continue working toward the goals of the Board and its Ten Year Plan.

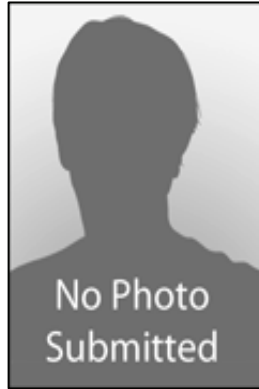
**Unopposed**

**Fire District 14, Commissioner Position 3**



**Michael Nemnich**

**No Candidate Submission**



**Marty Coble**

To help provide Skagit County Fire District 14 with the highest quality of service possible with the prudent utilization of Fire District funds and to insure our volunteer firefighters are properly trained and equipped to serve Fire District 14.

**Hospital District 1, Commissioner Position 1**



**Bronwyn Pickering**

Bronwyn Pickering is committed to civic involvement, volunteerism and support for maintaining an accessible, strong health care system to meet the needs of the region. Bronwyn was appointed to the Public Hospital District No. 1 Skagit Valley Hospital Board of Commissioners in May 2002 and subsequently elected in 2003 to a six-year term. She served as Board President in 2007-2008, providing leadership as the hospital completed and opened a major expansion and new Regional Cancer Care Center. Skagit Valley Hospital has continued to expand and add services to best serve the growing and aging population of Skagit, north Snohomish and surrounding counties. Bronwyn serves on the Board's Executive, Strategic Planning and Community Outreach committees. Bronwyn looks forward to continuing to serve the people of her community as a Skagit Valley Hospital commissioner with a focus on providing outstanding service, recruiting physicians and specialists, enhancing technology and providing access to health care.

**Unopposed**

**Hospital District 1, Commissioner Position 6****Lewis, Pattie**

With a longtime interest in quality healthcare and mental health issues, Pattie Lewis was appointed to the Public Hospital District No. 1 Skagit Valley Hospital Board of Commissioners in April 2008. Pattie served as Finance Director for Community Mental Health in Mount Vernon for 17 years before retiring in 2000 when she turned her attention to volunteering. She

joined the Skagit Hospice Foundation Board of Trustees in 2001 and served as board president in 2007. Pattie is the hospital Board Secretary and is a member of the Executive Committee, Executive Quality Council, Community Outreach Committee, Finance Committee and Ethics Committee. Pattie is dedicated to working on behalf of residents and patients of the region to make sure advanced, comprehensive, quality healthcare services are available and accessible to all.

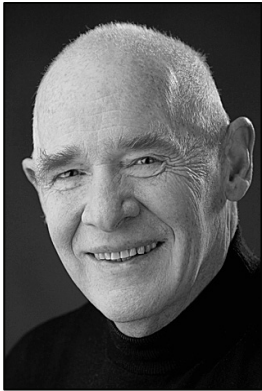
**Unopposed****Hospital District 1, Commissioner Position 7****Bruce G. Lisser**

It is very important to give back to the community in which I live and serving as a board member for Skagit Valley Hospital, District 1, commissioner position 7, gives me the opportunity. Area residents are fortunate to be served by Skagit Valley Hospital. Our hospital in recent years has become a regional health care facility- one which, through strong leadership, great vision and fiscal responsibility-

provides services not previously seen in the community. These services include advanced heart care, surgical services, orthopedics, diagnostics, a Regional Cancer Care Center, kidney dialysis, the Wound Healing Center, the Children's Therapy Program, mental health care and a Level III Emergency/Trauma center. The hospital also provides programming to promote the health of our community with exercise, diet and other services which give residents the tools needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle. It has been an honor to serve on the board since my appointment in 2008. I look forward to working with this great board to not only maintain quality health care at our hospital but to also continue to provide a vision which keeps our health care system one of which our community is proud.

**Unopposed**

**Hospital District 2, Commissioner Position 3**

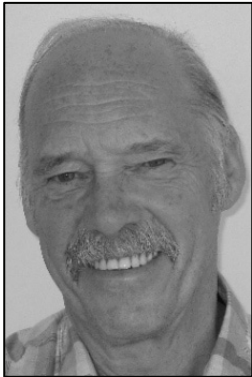


**Paul Maughan**

I currently serve on Island Hospital's Board of Commissioners and seek your support to serve another term. In Anacortes and the surrounding communities, Island Hospital is known for providing outstanding care to the ill and innovative support to families and those seeking to enjoy continued good health. In my dozen years serving on the Board of Commissioners as Commissioner, President and Secretary, Island Hospital has developed the financial stability to match our vision of community health. I initiated the Healthy Communities project, focused our quality of care efforts through a Board-level Quality Improvement Initiative and served on the Washington Health Foundation's Statewide Rural Network. I spearheaded the Anacortes Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Project that has been enthusiastically received here and in neighboring communities and received the Red Cross 2009 Real Heroes Award (Medical) for this effort. My professional qualifications and experience have provided key skills and background necessary to successfully oversee Island Hospital's multi-million dollar health facility. I would appreciate your vote for me, Paul Maughan, as Island Hospital Commissioner

**Unopposed**

**Port of Anacortes, Commissioner Position 1**



**Ray Niver**

Before I was elected Commissioner the Port and City were deadlocked in law suits. The Port was plagued by internal staff problems and fighting the Department of Ecology. Today Port City relations are the best in a decade. Port staff has been changed from the top down with quality professionals. Our new legal team has partnered with Ecology in the #1 cleanup program in the State called "Focus Fidalgo". Funding this multimillion dollar cleanup comes from liable parties and Ecology, not Port taxes. These achievements were recently awarded "Port of the year" by the Washington Public Port Association. My support and contributions have earned me the endorsement of the majority of the County Commissioners, the City Council members, the Mayor of Anacortes, and Washington Conservation Voters. Goals for the future include better management of Port resources so we can phase out Port taxes, to integrate the marina with the community and include an Anthony's restaurant, to renew Dakota Creek shipyard, to use the Industrial Development Corporation to help private business and to continue environmental cleanup and mitigation. I continue to support joint Port/City cooperation, strategic planning, and fiscal responsibility while respecting the unique quality of life of this community.



**Roger Born**

The Port of Anacortes presents a unique management challenge. The diversity of economic activity goes from manufacturing, retail, wholesale, fisheries, marine recreation, storage, all the way to negotiating government contracts. Also is the use of Port facilities by civic organizations for a broad range of activities. Thoughtful, knowledgeable guidance is a must. My education, experience, and community service meet the challenge. An attractive and inviting waterfront is a special place for all, citizens and visitors. I support continued waterfront improvements for increased citizen pride and use, as well as for visitor draw and economic growth. Hundreds of families make living-wage incomes working for large and small businesses on Port properties, waterfront and airport. I will work toward expanded employment opportunities and back local marine skills education. Sensitive seashore and wetlands are ever-present aspects of Port properties. I am dedicated to continuing preservation of the Port's environment. Citizens, tenants, and facility users must be heard, and all must be kept aware of goals and specific Port decisions. Coordination with local government is necessary. I will be personally available to learn, discuss, coordinate and inform. Port Commissioner is not a one-issue calling, Vote Born for Port!



**Port of Anacortes, Commissioner Position 2****Bill Short**

During my tenure as President of the Anacortes Port Commission in 2008 our Port was awarded "Port

of the Year" by the Washington Public Ports Association out of 75 Ports. We also received a national

award for ecology restoration from the American Ports Association. Recent Port accomplishments include the beginning construction of the Marine Skill Center and the small boat launch; the self-

sustaining operation of the airport; and the process of locating an Anthony's Restaurant at the marina. We have begun a 25 million dollar cleanup at the Seafarers Memorial Park. When finished, there will be facilities behind the new breakwater for youth sailing. The Port also had free music concerts this summer at the marina and expect more next year. One concern I have is the desire of developers to acquire Port property to build condos. This was attempted at the airport and at the Marine Skill Center. There are some Port sites near the marina still at risk. The Marina Public Advisory committee is against such development. I agree. I need your support to continue the development of the Port and make the marina a first class public park to be enjoyed by all people of Anacortes.

**John Prosser**

My name is John Prosser and I am running for Anacortes Port Commissioner, District 2. In the 31 years that I have lived in Anacortes, I have been committed to our community and its betterment. I have been actively involved with community groups like the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce, the Anacortes Rotary, Skagit Valley College Foundation, The American Red Cross and Island Hospital Foundation.

Professionally, I have served as a Real Estate Broker in Anacortes since 1979. The contributions that I have made to Anacortes in the past will play an important role in being able to envision the future of our community. As Port Commissioner, I will pave the way for new opportunity, expand the Port's role in economic development and create family-wage jobs – making our Port a clean and attractive place to do business. My experience demonstrates that I have been a leader in this community, and I am ready to take on this new challenge. I bring skills as a problem solver and a communicator that will be essential to build your trust and get things done. I ask for your vote to allow me to make those critical decisions for our community.

**Port of Anacortes, Commissioner Position 5****Keith Rubin**

Keith Rubin; leadership for change

Not long ago the Port of Anacortes was in crises. Staff time and public dollars were being wasted fighting the citizens, the City, the State, and the Federal government. The Port had lost sight of its mission. Keith Rubin's leadership is the change that put the Port back on track. With Project Pier 1, the Scott site

cleanup, the Northwest Career and

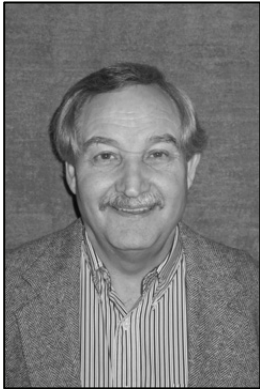
Technical Academy, and the small boat launch, the Port is fulfilling its mission once again. In the past the Port would fight ecological interests. With Keith Rubin came a new approach of cooperation. That change has made the Port of Anacortes a leader in environmental efforts for which the Port has been recognized nationally. When the Port chose not to support small boat users Keith Rubin changed the focus to enable water access for the widest range of maritime interests. Anacortes is changing. Keith Rubin has unmatched experience and proven leadership in economic development, environmental stewardship and public access. Re-elect Keith Rubin; leadership for change

**Guy Davidson**

The Port is charged with economic development in Anacortes, especially in waterfront and transportation areas. Anacortes is an incredible place to live, blessed with natural beauty, water access, friendly people, and good jobs. We don't need to change anything, we just need more...more waterfront access, more economic development and more jobs. Join me to help Anacortes develop responsibly for the

future, using our assets for the benefit of the people of Anacortes and making sure that future growth is compatible with long-term goals. My vision for Anacortes' future includes: accessible waterfront for all Anacortes; the expansion of job and economic development; family-wage jobs; deep water access in the industrial section of Fidalgo Bay; and a public/private partnership for waterfront property south of Cap Sante Boat Haven. Responsible stewardship of Port properties should include: the introduction of Green protocols for all Port property and projects; continual evaluation with Port tenants of their needs; safety standards at the airport; and economic viability for all projects. The leadership I would bring to the Port would incorporate: open hearings for the public; working more closely with the City; implementation of the Anacortes Futures Project.

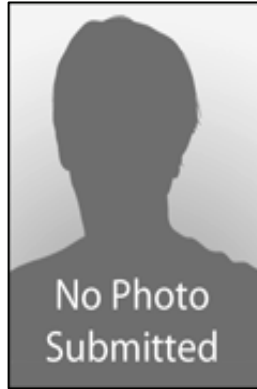
**Port of Skagit County, Commissioner Position 3**



**Wm. J. Bill Shuler**

My family moved from North Carolina to Sedro-Woolley when I was a child, and, for the most part, I have lived here ever since. As I get older, I find myself ever more appreciative of just how special the valley is. However, if this exceptional quality of life is to be sustained for our children and grandchildren, the county's economic base simply has to grow

and create many new family wage jobs. The Port's role is essential to that task, especially in the current economy. In fact, economic development and job creation is its main mission. While our port appears to be sound and well managed, I think it has much more to accomplish to get where we need to be. I believe my extensive management experience and broad community involvement has prepared me well to serve on the Port Commission. I am a proven leader who likes to see people and ideas succeed, but am also keenly aware that when public money is spent, there must be at least equal value added. I care deeply about Skagit County and would like to play a part in making its future even better than its past.



**Glen Allen**

**No Candidate Submission**

**Anacortes School District, Director District 2**



**Kris Lytton**

While it is the responsibility of the community to provide the resources for education, it is the responsibility of the School Board, educators, parents, and students to ensure those resources are effectively and efficiently used to achieve the very best education possible.

Expectations for students and educators are continuously increasing, however, the level of resources provided by the State have declined, resulting in difficult budget decisions with potentially negative impacts for children. It is imperative that we prepare our children for success on an international stage for college, job training, career life, and global citizenship. I will continue to work hard to ensure that children and schools remain a priority. I believe in rigorous standards, particularly in math, science, and technology so that we prepare our students for success in college and the workforce. As an experienced leader, I am dedicated to the changes necessary so that all children receive an excellent education where they are equipped to successfully compete in a global economy.

**Unopposed**

## Anacortes School District, Director District 5



**Karl W. Yost**

Our family moved to Anacortes in 1997. Three of our children and a daughter-in-law graduated from the District, and our youngest is currently a high school freshman. My wife and I have actively volunteered over the years for various programs at all levels within the school district. I strongly advocate the public school system, particularly here in Anacortes where many life achievements of Anacortes voters stem

from a common public education background. Strong schools and their competitive programs that challenge, foster curiosity, and stimulate the education of our students are worthy of our support. As various issues are contemplated by the Board, I will, if elected, offer input founded on: a diverse background; communication from voters; and my precept that cost effective and productive education is critical to the development and vitality of not just our students, but also our District personnel, and the community at large. Anacortes has a rich history, a vibrant knowledge and experience diversity, and a wealth of real-world experiences. These contribute to make Anacortes the fine community that it is. I hope to learn from, engage, and apply these resources so we all will witness and celebrate the future successes of our youth.



**Robert W. Hyde**

**We live in the best community in the state, why not have the best school district in the state? I am seeking the office of School Board Position 5 because I believe that the Anacortes School District can be just that.** In spite of recent budget troubles and layoffs, our school district is poised for greatness. We have excellent senior leadership, teachers, staff, and a

dedicated school board. First priority for funds must be for the classroom and the teacher. We must offer excellent vocational and college prep pathways for students through enthusiastic and passionate teachers. It will give our kids a great education, an edge in the job market, as well as attract new families and businesses to Anacortes. The school board must be open, honest, and connected to the community. We must keep taxes low and advance private sector and individual sponsorships for programs and events. I would be honored by your vote and to represent you on the Anacortes School Board.

## Burlington School District, Director District 5



**Dick Spink**

**No Candidate Submission**



**Bradley Whaley**

My background includes 25 years in business and governmental finance including five years as the Finance Director of a community college and twelve years as County Finance Director including here in Skagit County. I have extensive experience in capital campaigns, school finance, and bond issues and feel that I can provide unique insight to this position. I have three

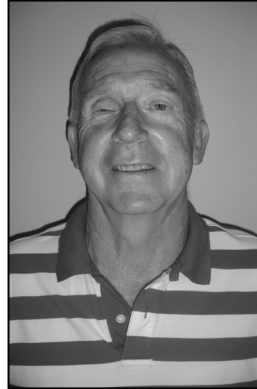
children in Burlington schools and a vested interest in our community. My grandfather was a school administrator and most of my relatives work as teachers and professors. I feel obligated to see that the school maintains and improves its exceptional reputation.

**Concrete School District, Director District 4**



**Lucille Claybo**

**No Candidate Submission**



**Bill Thompson**

I have spent 40 years within the Concrete School District as a teacher, school board member, voter, parent and grandparent. I feel I can put this experience to work with the school board as it may relate to hiring, the budget, working with staff, communication, understanding parental concerns and making education more fun for kids. I would like to see more parental involvement in our educational setting. Improving student achievement is important, but all students are not college oriented and we need to develop each of our students' interests and skills so they can all be successful. A gradual change in school curriculum is healthy and having goals that are measurable and achievable are needed throughout the district. All decisions made by the school board must be in the best interest of the students.

**LaConner School District, Director District 5**



**John Thulen**

John grew up in La Conner and is a proud graduate of its schools. He has three children attending La Conner schools, having been a parent in the district for 8 years and looking ahead to another 12. While growing up, John saw his father serve on the school board for many years. This left a lasting impression of responsibility for the school as a parent and community member. With no current school board members having children attending La Conner schools, John brings a needed perspective. Student needs are his top priority and would take precedence in all decisions.



**Dixie Otis**

It would benefit the La Conner School Board to have a member who has well-rounded experience with the district's staff and students, first-hand knowledge of the curriculum, technology, and special programs currently in place, as well as a proven record of success as an advocate and mentor to kids in our community. The La Conner District is determined to put the best interests of our children first. I have demonstrated this commitment by devoting the better part of my life to the public school system having taught grades K-4 for 29 years, then returning after a brief retirement to work another 14 years for the District as a classroom aide, a substitute teacher, and for the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community as a tutor. In the recent past, I have assisted twelfth-graders with their Senior Seminar and graduation project requirements and have acted as a trusted adviser and motivator for students in need of extra assistance and attention. I offer a great sense of humor and have a proven ability to work professionally with administrators, teachers, parents and staff. Most importantly, I have the intelligence and strength to make decisions that put the best interests of our children first.



## Measure Statement: Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District

### *Official Ballot Title:*

#### **Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District**

#### **Proposition No. 1**

#### **Maintenance and Operation Levy**

Shall Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District continue to be funded for the next three years (2010-2012) by a tax of approximately \$0.0957 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation (for example \$100,000 assessed property value equals \$9.57 per year) to provide \$464,471 in 2010, with additional increases if deemed necessary that will not exceed 1% each year, to pay part of maintenance and operational expenses, with taxes to be collected in 2010-2012.

Yes [ ] No [ ]

### **Explanatory Statement**

Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center is a separate municipal corporation not financially affiliated with the City of Anacortes or Skagit County.

The District was formed by approval of the voters in the District for the purpose of building and operating a swimming pool for the Fidalgo Island area in May 1972. A fitness center was added in 1986.

To remain open, the Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center requires levies to supplement the revenues collected at the door. Every three years, the District is required to obtain voter approval to continue receiving levy support. If approved by the voters, this measure will authorize the District to receive \$464,471 in 2010 for maintenance and operations of Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center. Levy support in 2011 and 2012 will not exceed an increase of 1% each year if deemed necessary.

### **Statement in favor of Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District Maintenance and Operation Levy**

The Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District provides the community with a public swimming pool and a fitness center. The Maintenance and Operation Levy offsets upkeep and operating expenses, and allows the District to charge reasonable user fees for all citizens. The Maintenance and Operation Levy is an ongoing obligation, not a new tax, and must have voter approval every three years to continue. Utility bills, operating and custodial supplies, professional services, and insurance coverage are among the expenses covered by the levy.

In the upcoming three years, additional repairs are needed to keep Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center functional and safe for public use. The pool needs maintenance to the water level regulators to protect pool pumps, seal concrete surfaces underneath the pool lining, replace rusted deck handrails, and remove and replace some of the damaged tiles in the lane lines. The old finish will be removed from the pool surface, repairs made, and a multi-coat bond applied before the interior is re-finished. Severely rusted ceiling tile frames and damaged tiles in the pool area will be replaced. Additional repairs to the Ozone system and other chemical and mechanical units are needed to ensure the quality of the water and protect patrons from waterborne illnesses.

### **No statements against Fidalgo Pool & Fitness Center District Maintenance and Operation Levy were submitted**

**Measure Statement: Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 4**

*Official Ballot Title:*

**SKAGIT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**RESTORING REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 4, Skagit County, Washington adopted Resolution No. 408 authorizing a regular property tax levy of \$1.00 per \$1,000, which is less than the levy that existed in the year 2004. This proposition would authorize the District to restore and maintain its regular property tax levy of \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 2009 and thereafter subject to any otherwise applicable statutory dollar rate limitations. The dollar amount of this levy would be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55.050. Should this proposal be approved?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

**Explanatory Statement**

This measure renews and maintains the levy for Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 4 at the level previously approved by voters. This levy is the primary source of funding for emergency services provided by the Fire District. National fire department response standards and increased demand for service are challenging the Fire District's budget. State limitations on funding increases do not allow the Fire District to keep up with increasing labor and operational costs. Passage of Proposition No.1 will allow the Fire District to restore the levy rate at \$1 .00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation as otherwise authorized by law.

**No statements in favor of Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 4 Proposition No. 1 Restoring Regular Property Tax Levy were submitted**

**No statements in against of Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 4 Proposition No. 1 Restoring Regular Property Tax Levy were submitted**

## Measure Statement: Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 17

*Official Ballot Title:*

**SKAGIT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 17  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**RESTORING REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire Protection District No. 17, Skagit County, Washington adopted Resolution No. 266 re-authorizing a regular property tax levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000, which is the same levy that existed in the year 2005. This proposition would authorize the District to restore and maintain its regular property tax levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 2009 and thereafter subject to any otherwise applicable statutory dollar rate limitations. The dollar amount of this levy would be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55.050. Should this proposal be approved?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

### **Explanatory statement**

This measure restores the levy for Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 17 to the level that existed in 2005. Since 2005, the levy rate has declined. This levy is the primary source of funding for emergency services provided by the Fire District. National fire department response standards and increased demand for service are challenging the Fire District's budget. State limitations on funding increases do not allow the Fire District to keep up with increasing labor and operational costs. Passage of Proposition No.1 will allow the Fire District to restore the levy rate at \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation as otherwise authorized by law.

### **Statement in favor of Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 17 Proposition No. 1 Restoring Regular Property Tax Levy**

The Guemes Island Fire Department is requesting a levy rate increase to 50 cents per thousand, the same rate supporting the department in the 1960s. This would bring us more in line with taxes collected by other rural fire districts in Skagit County. Our current rate is 32 cents per thousand, which includes an 11 cent temporary increase put in place to purchase our new fire engine in 2005. This increase expires at the end of this year. Effectively the department has been operating on 19 cents, roughly a third of the average for rural departments in the county. With a combination of good grant writing and frugality, we have been able to stay afloat for the past several years, but a number of issues are about to catch up to us. Three of our five vehicles are in need of replacement - two due to excessive mileage and one is out of compliance with federal DOT regulations. Our fire hall is in need of renovations to address earthquake stabilization and usage conflicts. The new levy rate will make it possible for us to catch up on training and safety issues while making provisions for a formal capital improvement fund.

### **No statements in favor of Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 17 Proposition No. 1 Restoring Regular Property Tax Levy were submitted**

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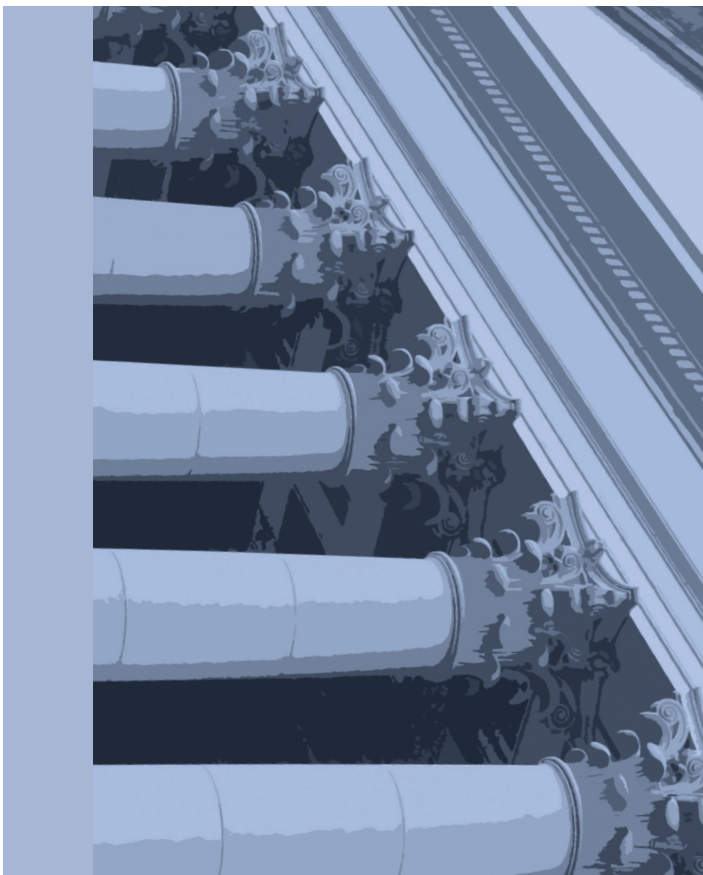
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Skagit County



State of Washington  
& Skagit County

## Voters' Pamphlet

November 3, 2009 General Election

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