

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA BILL

NO. 1998 - 74

CLEARANCES	Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned To
Orig. Dept.: County Council	1/27/98			
Division Head:				
Dept. Head:				
Prosecutor:				
Budget:				
Executive:				

SUBJECT:

Resolution supporting senate bill 6568 relating to school district revenues

ATTACHMENTS

Proposed resolution

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Related County Contract #:	Should the Clerk schedule a hearing? (Y/N)	Requested Date:
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RECOMMENDED MOTION (for final action):

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN

1998 - 74 1/27/98: Approved 5 - 0, Brenner & Sutter absent. Res. #98-004

Related File Numbers:

Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item only):

Res. #98-004

SPONSORED BY: Imhof

2 PROPOSED BY: Imhof

3 INTRODUCTION DATE: 1/27/98

4 RESOLUTION NO. 98-004

5 **IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 6568 RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT**
6 **REVENUES**

7 WHEREAS, during the 1930's many parcels of land were acquired by counties, mainly in
8 Western Washington, because the owners failed to pay the property taxes due; and,

9 WHEREAS, during the late 1930's and early 1940's, most counties transferred these county
10 lands to the newly created State Forest Board (SFB) for management; and,

11 WHEREAS, the SFB would sell timber when someone applied to purchase a specific patch
12 of timber; and,

13 WHEREAS, the SFB would pay the county 90% of the money received from the sale of
14 timber; and,

15 WHEREAS, ten percent was retained as a management fee for the SFB's expenses; and,

16 WHEREAS, each county was to distribute money received from the SFB in the same manner
17 used to collect general tax dollars for the taxing district, where the timber sold was located; and,

18 WHEREAS, a county, school district, rural fire district, etc. received any money only when
19 timber was sold; and,

20 WHEREAS, the SFB timber money was in lieu of property taxes that would have been paid
21 yearly had the land still been in private ownership; and,

22 WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was created in 1957 and the SFB's
23 authority was transferred to the DNR; and,

24 WHEREAS, the DNR began an intensive forest management program for the state lands
25 which included the State Forest Board-Transfer lands; and,

26 WHEREAS, a forest inventory was done which provided data that enabled the DNR to sell
27 timber on a sustained basis within each county; and,

28 WHEREAS the sale of this timber created steady income for counties and school districts

1 with Forest Board lands, and other public entities with these taxing districts; and,

2 WHEREAS, SFB land and timber harvest exists in 66 school districts within Washington
3 State; and,


4 WHEREAS, legislation to eliminate the deductible status will reduce the state general fund
5 surplus by approximately \$14 million per year.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Whatcom County Council supports
7 proposed Senate Bill 6568 to amend the statutes so that state forest board revenue will not be
8 deducted from the general funds of 66 school districts.

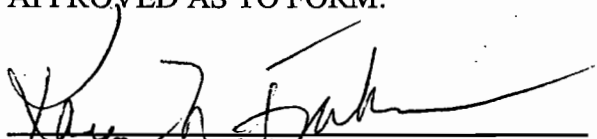
9 APPROVED this 27 day of January, 1998.

10
11 ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

12 
13 Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council


Robert Imhof, Council Chair

14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
15 
16 Civil Deputy Prosecutor

