



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 4, 2011

Ordinance 17204

Proposed No. 2011-0327.3

Sponsors Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE prohibiting certain door-to-door
2 solicitations; adding a new chapter to K.C.C. Title 12 and
3 prescribing penalties.

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 5 1. Currently, property owners and residents in unincorporated King
6 County who post "No Solicitation" or "No Trespassing" signs have no
7 effective way of enforcing this request because no county ordinance
8 restricts the activities of solicitors.
- 9 2. Law enforcement and neighborhood groups report that solicitors using
10 aggressive tactics have intimidated and harassed residents and sometimes
11 created fear in neighborhoods, particularly among immigrant cultures and
12 retirement communities where residents might be more vulnerable.
- 13 3. King County law enforcement agencies have identified some door-to-
14 door solicitors who appear to have used their access to private property as
15 an opportunity to engage in criminal activity. For example, police reports
16 indicate that individuals apparently engaged in door-to-door solicitation
17 use their access to determine if a residence is occupied before burglarizing
18 a home.

19 4. Police reports in recent years also indicate that door-to-door solicitation
20 has been connected to a growing number of complaints and incidents in
21 unincorporated King County of criminal activity such as scams collecting
22 money for products or services that are not delivered.

23 5. Residences in the unincorporated areas are more vulnerable to criminal
24 activity connected to door-to-door solicitation because low-density
25 neighborhoods have fewer witnesses to criminal activity.

26 6. For residents posting "No Solicitation" or "No Trespassing" signs on
27 their property, this ordinance will provide law enforcement officers with a
28 new tool to respond to and address complaints, with the intent of deterring
29 criminal activities and assisting residents in protecting themselves and
30 their property.

31 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

32 SECTION 1. Sections 2 through 5 of this ordinance should constitute a new
33 chapter in K.C.C. Title 12.

34 NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. If a person has not been requested or invited by
35 the occupant, the person shall not enter or remain upon any private premises for the
36 purpose of contacting the occupant to solicit the immediate or future purchase or sale of
37 goods, services or any other thing of value if a sign stating "No Solicitation" or "No
38 Trespassing" is posted at or near the entrance to the premises.

39 NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. The following are exempted from the
40 prohibitions in section 2 of this ordinance

41 A. The leaving at private premises printed materials advertising products or
42 services;

43 B. Solicitations by organizations that are charitable, nonprofit, religious or
44 political in nature, or by government agencies; and

45 C. Solicitations by farmers exempted under chapter 36.71.090 RCW.

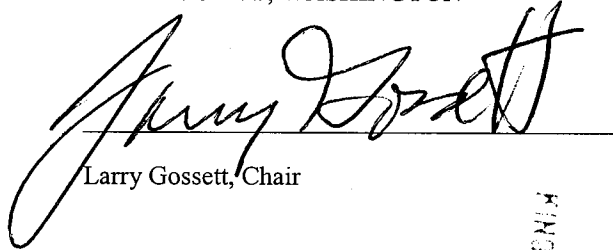
46 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. The sheriff shall enforce this ordinance, through
47 means including but not limited to K.C.C. Title 23.

48 NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. A violation of this chapter is a class 2 civil
49 infraction punishable under chapter 7.80 RCW.
50

Ordinance 17204 was introduced on 7/18/2011 and passed as amended by the
Metropolitan King County Council on 10/3/2011, by the following vote:

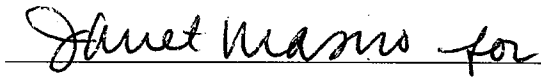
Yes: 7 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson,
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 2 - Mr. Phillips and Mr. Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 6 day of OCTOBER, 2011.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None