



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

February 23, 2009

Motion 12929

Proposed No. 2009-0062.1

Sponsors Constantine, Hague, Phillips,
Dunn, Gossett and von Reichbauer

1 A MOTION supporting the creation of cultural access
2 funds, which would increase access to scientific, cultural,
3 artistic and heritage experiences throughout Washington
4 state and the Puget Sound region.

5
6 WHEREAS, access to cultural experiences strengthens communities and
7 individuals, and

8 WHEREAS, communities and regions that are home to vibrant cultural
9 organizations are more competitive for high-paying jobs and high-quality workers, and
10 enjoy greater economic prosperity, and

11 WHEREAS, studies show that students, who are engaged in cultural activities, are
12 less likely to drop out of school and are more likely to excel in science and math studies,
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Washington has a rich and varied science and cultural community,
15 ranging from community heritage sites to regional theaters, world-class zoos, performing
16 arts and museums, and

17 WHEREAS, these science and cultural organizations are the centerpieces of many
18 communities, enrich the residents and provide tremendous benefits to individual
19 communities and the state, and

20 WHEREAS, the residents of the Puget Sound region believe that cultural and
21 scientific organizations have a significant impact on the quality of life, are an important
22 part of the social fabric of the region and want additional access to science and cultural
23 programs, and

24 WHEREAS, Puget Sound science and cultural organizations generate
25 approximately \$1.7 billion in annual economic activity statewide, creating 41,000 jobs
26 statewide, paying \$776 million in annual wages and generating \$73 million in state tax
27 revenue, and

28 WHEREAS, in recognition of all of these benefits, the Prosperity Partnership
29 Cultural Taskforce is proposing state legislation that would enable communities across
30 the state to create publicly funded cultural access funds, and

31 WHEREAS, the goal of the legislation is to increase access to cultural
32 experiences, from arts organizations to science centers and zoos, for children and adults
33 across Washington state, and

34 WHEREAS, funds would be used to provide cultural education programs for
35 students and residents, designated free days, discounted tickets, discounted services and
36 funding for emerging cultural programs in small towns and other underserved areas;

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

38 A. King County recognizes the significant benefits to individuals and
39 communities derived from increased access to cultural experiences, such as zoos,
40 aquariums, museums, heritage sites, the performing arts and other cultural experiences;

41 B. King County recognizes the tremendous contribution that cultural
42 organizations make to individuals, communities, the region and Washington State and is
43 committed to supporting them; and

44 C. King County and the Prosperity Partnership Cultural Taskforce share many of
45 the same goals and objectives. Further, the county supports the Prosperity Partnership
46

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47 Cultural Taskforce in its efforts to encourage the state legislature to pass authorizing
48 legislation to allow the creation of cultural access funds within the state.
49

Motion 12929 was introduced on 1/26/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 2/23/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Constantine, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Dunn

No: 0

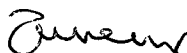
Excused: 1 - Mr. Ferguson

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dow Constantine, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None