



**King County
Metropolitan King County Council**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:		Date:	January 3, 2018
Proposed No.:	2018-0001	Prepared by:	Mac Nicholson

SUBJECT

Appointment to fill the vacancy in the position of State Senator for the 39th Legislative District.

SUMMARY

Proposed Joint Motion and Resolution 2018-0001 would make an appointment to fill the vacancy in the position of State Senator for the 39th Legislative District.

BACKGROUND

The resignation of Senator Kirk Pearson has created a vacancy in the position of State Senator for the 39th District (Senator Pearson's resignation letter is Attachment 1).

As the legislative district covers parts of Skagit, Snohomish and King Counties (see Attachment 2), the three Councils are responsible for making an appointment to fill the vacancy. Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15. The appointee must be from "the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and shall be one of three persons who shall be nominated by the county central committee of that party." Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15. The Board and Councils must make the appointment "within sixty days after the vacancy occurs." Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15, otherwise the appointment authority shifts to the Governor.

The person appointed will serve until certification of the election of a successor in November 2018 (RCW 29A.24.171). The person elected in November 2018 will serve the remainder of Sen. Pearson's term, which expires in 2020.

With different sized legislative bodies, the following vote weighting shall apply:

- Each of the three members of the Skagit Board of Commissioners 1.0 votes
- Each of the five members of the Snohomish County Council 0.6 votes
- Each of the nine members of the King County Council 0.33 votes

For purposes of this appointment, a majority constitutes any combination of votes in excess of 4.5 votes.

THE CANDIDATES

In accordance with the state constitution, the Washington State Republican Central Committee (WSRCC) has nominated three candidates to fill the current vacancy. As described in a December 6, 2017 (Attachment 3), memorandum from Caleb Heimlich, Executive Director of the Washington State Republic Party.

THE SELECTIONS

The candidates, in order of preference as listed on the WSRCC letter, are:

First Choice: Keith Wagoner

Second Choice: Elizabeth Scott

Third Choice: Georgene Faries

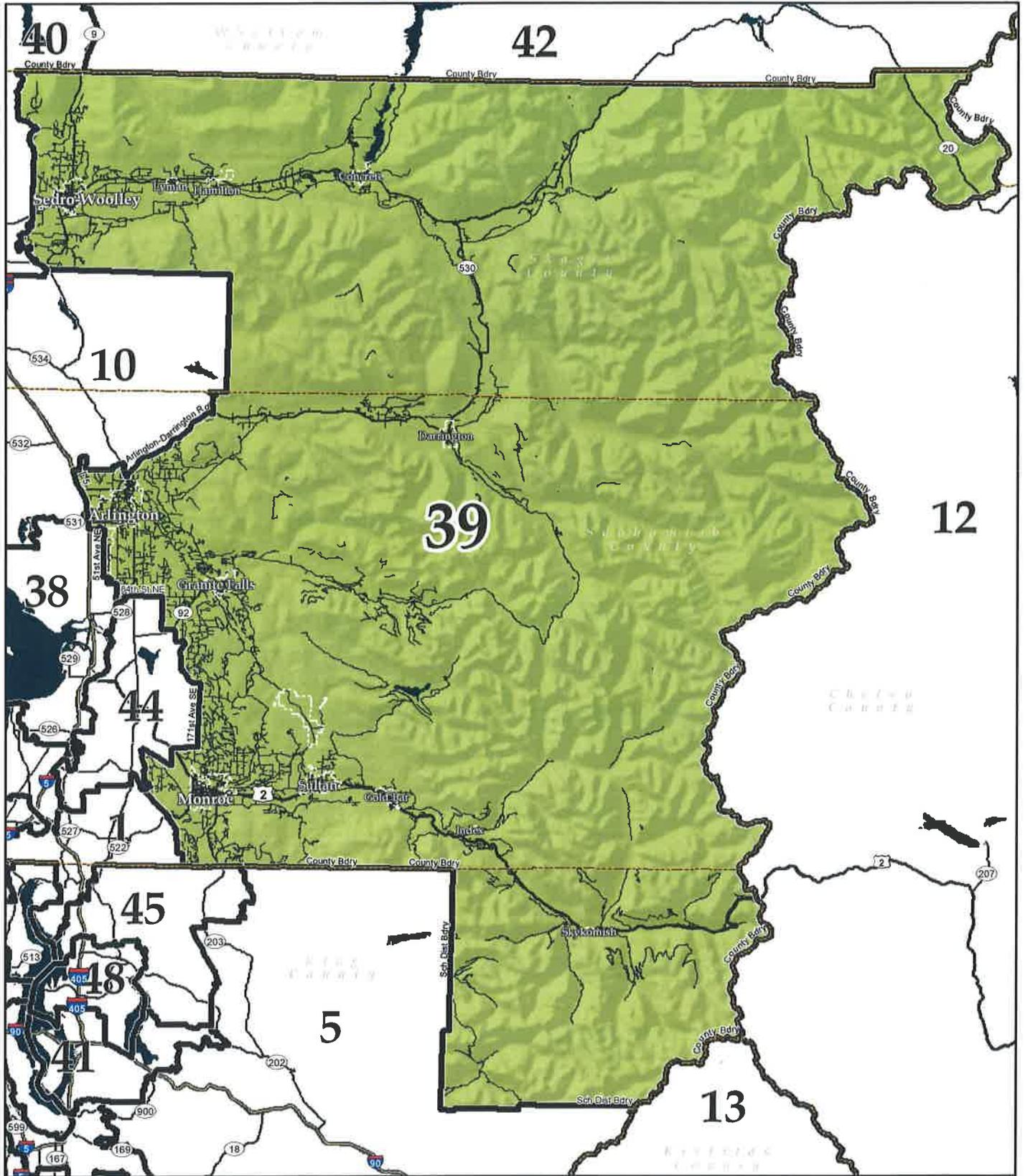
Resumes for each of the candidates are attached (Attachments 4-6). Responses from each of the three candidates to the King County Council's Candidate Questionnaire are also attached (Attachment 7).

AMENDMENT

In its current form, the proposed joint motion and resolution has a blank for the name of the person to be appointed. The blank will need to be filled in by oral amendment

ATTACHMENTS

1. Senator Pearson's resignation letter
2. Map of Washington's 39th Legislative District
3. WSRCC letter
4. Wagoner resume
5. Scott resume
6. Faries resume
7. Questionnaire and responses



Legislative District 39



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Washington South FIPS 4602 Feet
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Datum: North American 1983 Units: Foot US

