

Legislation Text

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A MOTION requesting the executive to establish a King County fair task force to determine how King County might improve fair attractions, attendance, financial sustainability and report findings and recommendations to the King County council.

WHEREAS, the King County fair was founded in 1863, and

WHEREAS, the King County fair is a longstanding tradition for the celebration of King County's agricultural heritage, and

WHEREAS, the attendance and revenues associated with the King County fair have been in decline over the past decade, and

WHEREAS, a key to finding a sustainable solution to funding of the fair is dependent upon finding and attracting events of regional and national importance to the fairgrounds, and

WHEREAS, the King County fair is not a full cost recovery operation and has historically relied on a general fund subsidy, and

WHEREAS, King County is experiencing a significant general fund financial crisis, and

WHEREAS, the King County council desires that the King County fair is a local attraction that would continue to provide entertainment to the region's families;

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

A. The executive is requested to establish a King County fair task force to determine how King County might improve fair attractions, attendance and attain full cost recovery. The fair task force shall analyze the fair operations and provide findings and recommendations to the executive.

- B. The fair task force shall be comprised of the following members:
- 1. One representative from the city of Enumclaw;
- 2. One representative from the equestrian community;
- 3. One representative from the Enumclaw chamber of commerce;
- 4. One representative from King County 4-H;
- 5. One representative from Washington FFA;
- 6. One representative from Washington State University Extension;
- 7. One representative from the Washington State 4-H;
- 8. One representative from the Washington state Fair Association;
- 9. One representative to be chosen at large by the fair task force;
- 10. One representative of the King County council;
- 11. One representative of the King County executive;
- C. The executive is requested to develop a plan, including the fair task force's findings and

recommendations, to improve fair attractions, attendance and full cost recovery. By August 1, 2009, the executive shall submit the plan by motion to the council for its review and approval.