



Legislation Text

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Clerk 03/05/2020

A MOTION extending the due dates for reports, studies and other work products to be transmitted to the King County council to ensure executive agencies can prioritize responding to the COVID-19 outbreak in King County.

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus first appeared in people in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, and

WHEREAS, public health - Seattle & King County activated the Public Health Departmental Emergency Operations Center on January 21, 2020, for a significant health emergency caused by novel coronavirus, and

WHEREAS, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is one of the eleven airports in the United States to receive and process travelers from the region where the COVID-19 outbreak originated, and

WHEREAS, the first case of COVID-19 identified in the United States occurred in January in a Snohomish County resident who had traveled to China, and cases have since been spread through community transmission in Snohomish and King counties, and

WHEREAS, as of March 4, 2020, thirty-nine people in Washington state have been diagnosed with and ten people have died from COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, according to Seattle's Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, new COVID-19 cases are likely to double every six days, and

WHEREAS, the emergency may become a pandemic, and

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency in response to the new cases of COVID-19 in Washington state on February 29, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the King County executive issued a proclamation of emergency on March 1, 2020, in order to exercise the executive's emergency powers, and

WHEREAS, through passage of motions and adoption of ordinances, the King County council delineates the reports, studies and other work products from executive agencies needed to support the council's work as the county's policy making body;

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

A. The King County council acknowledges the extraordinary efforts being undertaken by county agencies to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

B. Through this motion, the King County council expresses that it will accept reports, studies and other work products, including proviso responses, from executive agencies that were either requested by motion or required by ordinance to be transmitted to the council in 2020, up to sixty days after their requested or required transmittal date.

C. The King County council further expresses that it intends to collaborate with the regional policy committee, regional transit committee and regional water quality committee to jointly establish extended time limits for regional committees to review and recommend action on legislation.