Nickels, Laing, Sims, Derdowski

Introduced by: Phillips

Proposed No.: 93-576

July 28, 1993 93-576.sub (TB:clt\ldt)

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## motion no. 9204

A MOTION expressing the Council's intent to appoint a public housing consumer to the King County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

WHEREAS, according to RCW 35.82.070 a housing authority shall constitute a corporate public body, exercising public and essential governmental function, and having all the powers necessary to provide appropriate public housing, and

WHEREAS, originally, the King County Housing Authority was established by the county and charged to specifically remedy the shortage of safe and sanitary housing for senior citizens, and

WHEREAS, disabled non-elderly persons have been included in the federal definition of "elderly family" used for eligibility for elderly public housing since 1962, and

WHEREAS, the effects of the eligibility definition have been amplified in recent years by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which included mental disabilities in the definition of handicapped, and

WHEREAS, the 1988 Fair Housing Amendments and subsequent court decisions provided additional protection against housing discrimination for the disabled, and

WHEREAS, the population profile of public housing consumers has continued to change and now includes persons who were formerly homeless, persons who are experiencing mental illness or are in recovery from alcohol and substance abuse, and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for the Advancement of State Community Care Programs, many housing authorities are especially concerned about the proportion of special needs populations residing in public housing, and indicate housing managers lack the resources to respond adequately to the needs of these residents, and

WHEREAS, possessing the best insight about their own experience and unique needs, public housing consumers represent a wealth of untapped potential to address housing authority management issues, and

WHEREAS, consumers of special needs services have become more sophisticated and want a greater say in the management of their affairs as do stakeholders of all kinds in our nation, and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.82.040 mandates that the governing body of the county shall appoint five persons to govern the corporate affairs of the housing authority, and

WHEREAS, at least one term of office on the housing authority expired in May, 1993;

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

- A. The council finds that public housing authority consumers should have a meaningful role in the governance of the King County Housing Authority in order to better address issues that impact them directly.
- B. The council intends to appoint a public housing authority consumer to the first available vacancy on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

PASSED this 20th day of December, 1993.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Ob a day

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Council

COUNCIL AMENDED 12/20/93