



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

May 16, 2006

Motion 12285

Proposed No. 2006-0180.3

Sponsors Ferguson, Patterson and Phillips

1 A MOTION establishing the council's action plan for
2 continued improvement in the conduct of King County
3 elections.

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 WHEREAS, three citizens groups, an expert audit of elections, two management
7 consultants and the Secretary of State have reviewed King County elections and made
8 recommendations to the county on ways to improve the conduct of elections, and

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 WHEREAS, in response to the King County citizens' elections oversight
11 committee detailed report that included six high-priority recommendations, management
12 and staff of the elections section have worked hard and made many improvements and
13 have conducted successful elections in 2005 and 2006, and

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 WHEREAS, the council, the executive, elections section management and staff
14 understand that continual improvement is necessary, and

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 WHEREAS, the council will continue its active oversight of elections and may
16 mandate additional measures to ensure the continual improvement in the conduct of
17 elections;

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

19 The council adopts the following actions and schedule to ensure continued
20 improvement in the conduct of King County elections:

21 A. By June 12, 2006, the council will decide whether all elections in King
22 County shall be conducted as vote-by-mail elections with a limited number of regional
23 polling places;

24 B. By June 12, 2006, the council will decide on a policy to consolidate all
25 elections operations into a single facility;

26 C. By June 26, 2006, the council will decide on the process to acquire or
27 construct a facility into which all elections operations will be consolidated;

28 D. By June 26, 2006, the council will, by motion, request the executive to
29 transmit an ordinance to the council to acquire or construct a specific facility into which
30 all elections operations will be consolidated. The date for the transmittal of the ordinance
31 shall be before August 15, 2006. The council will act on the ordinance by October 2;

32 E. By June 12, 2006, the council will, by motion, request the executive to
33 transmit to the council a plan for improving voter registration records. This plan shall
34 take into account the establishment of the Secretary of State's statewide voter registration
35 database system. The plan shall be transmitted to the council by August 15, 2006;

36 F. By June 12, 2006, the council will, by motion, request the executive to
37 provide, by July 31, a written summary of election security improvements implemented
38 since January 2005, including the current status of physical security of election facilities,
39 ballot security procedures and election and voter registration system security procedures
40 and protocols; to evaluate the elections security recommendations of the Elections Center

41 and the citizens' election oversight committee that have yet to be completed; and to
42 provide a plan to implement those recommendations;

43 G. By June 30, 2006, the council will decide whether to request the executive to
44 hire a management consultant to assist the records, elections and licensing services
45 division. The role of the consultant is to help improve the culture in the elections section,
46 to assist the organization to become a model elections operation that functions at a very
47 high level of competence with high morale, low turnover and is fully staffed and to help
48 generate positive, quality-oriented performance on an individual and organizational level
49 that will enable the organization to reach greater and more sustainable levels of success;

50 H. By May 31, 2006, the council will reactivate the citizens' elections oversight
51 committee;

52 I. Upon appointment, the council will request the charter review commission, to
53 give its advice on whether or not the county auditor should be an elected position and if
54 so, whether or not the position should be a nonpartisan office;

55 J. By June 12, 2006, the council will request the executive provide the council
56 written quarterly summary reports starting with the fourth quarter of 2006, regarding the
57 conduct of elections, innovations and improvements, and the status of any outstanding
58 operational recommendations from the Election Center audit and the citizens' election
59 oversight committee; and

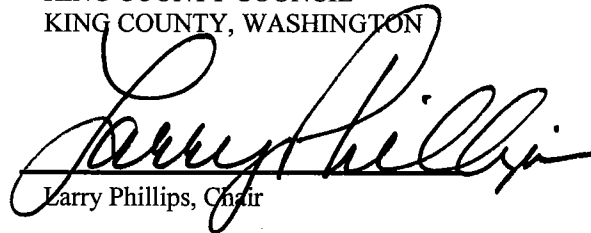
60 K. By June 12, 2006, the council will request the citizens' elections oversight
61 committee to evaluate the county's performance in making continued improvements to

62 elections operations on and report to the council's committee-of-the-whole, or its
63 successor committee, annually.
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Motion 12285 was introduced on 4/17/2006 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/15/2006, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Ms. Lambert

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None