



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 11, 2006

Motion 12313

Proposed No. 2006-0291.1

Sponsors Dunn, Constantine and Phillips

1 A MOTION expressing support for the reauthorization of
2 the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-
3 Determination Act of 2000, P.L. 106-393.

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WHEREAS, in 1908 the United States Congress enacted and subsequently
7 amended a law that requires that twenty-five percent of the revenues derived from
8 national forest lands be paid to states for use by the counties in which the lands are
9 situated for the benefit of public schools and roads, and

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WHEREAS, the sharing of revenues from the national forest lands is, in part, a
11 recognition that these lands are not subject to local taxation, and also that counties
12 provide services that directly benefit the lands and the people who use the lands, and

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WHEREAS, the principal source of revenues from national forest lands is from
14 the sale and removal of timber, which has been sharply curtailed in recent years due to
15 the Northwest Forest Plan, with a corresponding decline in revenues shared with
16 counties, and

17 WHEREAS, the United States Congress in the Secure Rural Schools and Self
18 Determination Act of 2000, P.L. 106-393, recognized a need to stabilize education and
19 road maintenance funding through predictable payments to the affected counties, job
20 creation in those counties and other opportunities associated with restoration,
21 maintenance and stewardship of federal lands, and

22 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 provides funds for the benefit of affected counties, as
23 well as an opportunity to invest a portion of the payments in projects on federal lands or
24 that benefit resources on federal lands, or in county projects or activities, and

25 WHEREAS, there are three hundred sixty-five thousand eight hundred fifty-six
26 acres of federal forest lands in King County, comprising twenty-five percent of the
27 county's land base, and

28 WHEREAS, King County provides services that benefit these federal forest lands
29 and surrounding rural communities, and

30 WHEREAS, King County is eligible for P.L. 106-393 funds based on its highest
31 historical share of timber receipts on federal lands located within the county, and

32 WHEREAS, in federal fiscal year 2006 King County is expected to receive
33 approximately \$2,315,000 for P.L. 106-393 funds, and

34 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 funds are appropriated to King County for rural
35 schools, improvements to county roads, search and rescue operations, protection and
36 restoration of forest ecosystems, community service camps, easements for passive
37 recreation, youth and community forestry programs, fire prevention and development
38 mitigation planning, and

39 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 funds are a significant revenue source for the
40 aforementioned rural projects and programs, and

41 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 funds are critical for the economic health of many
42 counties in the states of Washington, Oregon and California, and

43 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 funding is set to expire at the conclusion of federal
44 fiscal year 2006, and

45 WHEREAS, the United States Congress is currently considering H.R. 517 and S.
46 267, which would reauthorize P.L. 106-393 through 2013, and

47 WHEREAS, an appropriate funding source for reauthorization of P.L. 106-393
48 has not been identified, and

49 WHEREAS, identification of appropriate funding is necessary for reauthorization
50 of federal mandatory spending programs such as P.L. 106-393, and

51 WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties passed a resolution in support
52 of the reauthorization and enhanced funding of P.L. 106-393, and

53 WHEREAS, the King County rural forest commission supports reauthorization
54 and full funding of P.L. 106-393;

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

56 A. King County hereby supports the reauthorization and full funding of the
57 Secure Rural Schools and Self Determination Act of 2000, P.L. 106-393; and

58 B. King County hereby urges the United States Congress to reauthorize the act
59 with an appropriate long-term funding source.

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Motion 12313 was introduced on 6/26/2006 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/10/2006, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None