



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

August 23, 2010

Motion 13284

Proposed No. 2010-0398.1

Sponsors Phillips

1 A MOTION related to encouraging early and positive
2 consideration by Congress of measures addressing the Land
3 and Water Conservation Fund.

4 WHEREAS, open space and recreation lands and facilities are highly valued by
5 residents of King County, for their contribution to the region's quality of life, to the
6 economic vitality of King County and to the wildlife habitat and environmental resource
7 values that are embraced by the region's residents, and

8 WHEREAS, open space and recreation needs are more critical now than ever
9 before, as the region's cities continue to grow, and as the county's Comprehensive Plan
10 emphasizes the retention of open space lands to help balance more compact development
11 patterns, and

12 WHEREAS, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund has been an
13 important source of acquisition funding for open space and recreation facilities, both
14 locally and nationally, and

15 WHEREAS, the original intent of the Congress in setting up the Land and Water
16 Conservation Fund included the use of fee revenues derived from offshore oil and gas
17 leases to be used for land acquisition for open space and recreation purposes, and

18 WHEREAS, those revenues were intended to be funded at specified levels,
19 structured as a percentage of lease revenues from offshore oil and gas leases, on an
20 established and continuing basis, and

21 WHEREAS, funding allocation in recent years has shown a pattern of funding the
22 Land and Water Conservation Fund at substantially less than the amount generated by the
23 oil and gas leasing fee revenue, and

24 WHEREAS, of that reduced funding, a substantially smaller proportion than
25 originally intended has been directed to state and local governments for open space and
26 recreation purposes, and

27 WHEREAS, the nation now faces perhaps its greatest environmental disaster in
28 the uncontained oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico resulting from deepwater oil drilling
29 operations ; and

30 WHEREAS, it is important now, in this time of heightened attention to the
31 potential impacts of oil and gas drilling activities, to embrace again Congress's original
32 vision of open space acquisition to help offset the effects of oil and gas drilling
33 operations, and

34 WHEREAS, legislation is currently being developed in Congress that responds to
35 the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, and that could benefit by reemphasis on both a fair allocation
36 of available oil and gas fee revenue amounts among federal, state and local programs, as
37 well as full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund;

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

39 The council hereby encourages early and positive consideration by Congress of
40 measures addressing the Land and Water Conservation Fund, with specific regard to

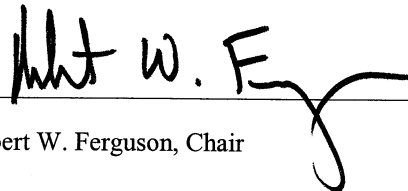
41 ongoing assurance that revenues made available through the fund are allocated such that
42 federal and state/local portions are balanced, and that neither allocation takes a
43 disproportionate share, and that the full amounts of revenue based on offshore oil and gas
44 leases are directed to the fund, as originally intended by Congress, in support of programs
45 including acquisition of open space and recreation lands and facilities.

46

Motion 13284 was introduced on 7/19/2010 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 8/23/2010, by the following vote:

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

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None