

January 10, 1995

Introduced By: Hague

unf-mand

Proposed No.:

95 - 043

MOTION NO. 9469

1  
2 A MOTION urging the Washington State  
3 Congressional Delegation to support the  
4 new mandate relief bill (S1/HR5), also  
5 known as the Kempthorne Bill in the  
6 Senate and to consider the fiscal impact  
7 that any new mandate will impose on state  
8 and local governments

9  
10 WHEREAS, the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Subtitle D  
11 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Safe Drinking  
12 Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Superfund, Americans with  
13 Disabilities Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Davis Bacon Act,  
14 Arbitrage and the Immigration Act, the Underground Storage  
15 Tank Law and others are all examples of Federal legislation  
16 passed without providing federal funding to support their  
17 enforcement within local jurisdictions; and

18 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan King County Council supports  
19 the aim behind these mandates but opposes the federal  
20 goverment funding them out of state and local budgets; and

21 WHEREAS, according to a 1993 National Association of  
22 County Officials (NACo) study, counties spent an estimated  
23 \$4.8 billion on just 12 mandates in fiscal year 1993; and

24 WHEREAS, according to that same study, counties will  
25 spend an estimated \$33.7 billion on those mandates over the  
26 next five years, or, on average, an estimated 12.3 percent of  
27 their locally raised revenues; and

1           WHEREAS, 156 new mandates were introduced last year and  
2 in most cases, did not include an assessment of the fiscal  
3 impact on state and local government; and

4           WHEREAS, unfunded mandates are imposed on states and  
5 localities without consideration of their priorities, budgets  
6 or capacity to implement; and

7           WHEREAS, Congress enacts laws to address national  
8 priorities but demands that state and local governments raise  
9 the revenues to implement them even if it means eliminating  
10 or cutting back on local priorities that address the demands  
11 of the voters; and

12           WHEREAS, County revenues are derived primarily from  
13 property taxes which, in many cases, are limited by state law  
14 and counties are required each year to spend no more than  
15 they take in; and

16           WHEREAS, while revenues vary greatly from one county to  
17 the next, in all cases they are collected to address limited  
18 local needs; and

19           WHEREAS, the Kempthorne bill requires the Congressional  
20 Budget Office to identify any mandate of over \$50 million and  
21 publish that information before floor consideration in either  
22 House; and

23           WHEREAS, the Kempthorne bill further requires that when  
24 Congress approves legislation which includes a mandate  
25 estimated to cost \$50 million or more, they will either be  
26 required to authorize funds and identify funding sources to  
27 pay for it or take a separate, recorded vote to waive those

1 requirements and thereby impose the cost on state and local  
2 governments; and

3 WHEREAS, the officers and Board of the National  
4 Association of County Officials (NACo) are urging member  
5 counties to work for early passage of the Kempthorne Bill; and

6 WHEREAS, Congressional leadership has promised counties  
7 relief from unfunded mandates within the first 100 days of  
8 the current session;

9 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of  
10 Metropolitan King County: that Congress is urged during its  
11 first 100 days to enact the Kempthorne bill and its companion  
12 bill in the House (S1/HR5) to ensure that the fiscal impact  
13 of any new mandate on state and local governments will be  
14 considered.

15 PASSED this 17th day of January, 1995.

16 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
17 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

18 Passed by a vote of 12-1.

19 Kent Pullen  
Chair

20 ATTEST:

21 Gerald A. Peterson  
22 Clerk of the Council

23 Attachments:  
24