04/09/99 4/19/99 clerk

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Introduced By:

Brian Derdowski

Proposed No.:

1999-0210

MOTION NO. 10667

A MOTION regarding support for a full and stable funding system for Washington's public schools and for appropriate compensation for educational personnel in King County's school districts.

WHEREAS, an educated citizenry is a cornerstone to a participatory democracy, and

WHEREAS, King County supports the mission of its public schools to provide a learning environment which empowers students to maximize their academic, creative, and personal potential to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens, and

WHEREAS, the state must fulfill its paramount, constitutional responsibility to fully fund basic education through a funding system which acknowledges the specific costs facing the schools in each region of the state, particularly in the high-cost regions such as King County, and

WHEREAS, King County's public schools must be able to recruit, select and retain quality educational personnel as teachers and members of the community, and

WHEREAS, all communities realize that schooling is strengthened when school

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WHEREAS, fundamental to the employment of an exemplary educational staff is

the provision for appropriate and competitive compensation and benefits, and

district employees can afford to live in the communities in which they work,

WHEREAS, educational personnel in the state of Washington have experienced significant reductions in their earning power in the past six years due to declining state support, and

WHEREAS, many King County school personnel must make long commutes home to housing they can afford, thus adding to congestion on our highways and undermining growth management strategies, and

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

- 1. King County strongly supports the development of full and stable funding that ensures the future education of the state's children through reduced class size, increased student teacher contact time, and appropriate, fair, and competitive compensation and benefits for all educational personnel.
- 2. King County strongly encourages the Washington state legislature, the Governor and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to seek immediate solutions and provide planning for long-term solutions to the problem of declining earning potential for education personnel.

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3. The state should also address the unique needs of teachers who work in areas where the cost of living, and particularly the cost of housing, is far above the statewide average. The statewide salary scale in use today pays all teachers throughout the state the same salary, regardless of where they live and work. A mechanism should be created that provides supplemental compensation to teachers from school districts where the cost of living is far above the statewide average.

PASSED by a vote of 10 to 1 this 19th day of April, 1999.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chair

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None