



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**February 23, 2009**

**Motion 12929**

**Proposed No.** 2009-0062.1

**Sponsors** Constantine, Hague, Phillips,  
Dunn, Gossett and von Reichbauer

1                   A MOTION supporting the creation of cultural access  
2                   funds, which would increase access to scientific, cultural,  
3                   artistic and heritage experiences throughout Washington  
4                   state and the Puget Sound region.

5  
6                   WHEREAS, access to cultural experiences strengthens communities and  
7 individuals, and

8                   WHEREAS, communities and regions that are home to vibrant cultural  
9 organizations are more competitive for high-paying jobs and high-quality workers, and  
10 enjoy greater economic prosperity, and

11                   WHEREAS, studies show that students, who are engaged in cultural activities, are  
12 less likely to drop out of school and are more likely to excel in science and math studies,  
13 and

14                   WHEREAS, Washington has a rich and varied science and cultural community,  
15 ranging from community heritage sites to regional theaters, world-class zoos, performing  
16 arts and museums, and

17           WHEREAS, these science and cultural organizations are the centerpieces of many  
18 communities, enrich the residents and provide tremendous benefits to individual  
19 communities and the state, and

20           WHEREAS, the residents of the Puget Sound region believe that cultural and  
21 scientific organizations have a significant impact on the quality of life, are an important  
22 part of the social fabric of the region and want additional access to science and cultural  
23 programs, and

24           WHEREAS, Puget Sound science and cultural organizations generate  
25 approximately \$1.7 billion in annual economic activity statewide, creating 41,000 jobs  
26 statewide, paying \$776 million in annual wages and generating \$73 million in state tax  
27 revenue, and

28           WHEREAS, in recognition of all of these benefits, the Prosperity Partnership  
29 Cultural Taskforce is proposing state legislation that would enable communities across  
30 the state to create publicly funded cultural access funds, and

31           WHEREAS, the goal of the legislation is to increase access to cultural  
32 experiences, from arts organizations to science centers and zoos, for children and adults  
33 across Washington state, and

34           WHEREAS, funds would be used to provide cultural education programs for  
35 students and residents, designated free days, discounted tickets, discounted services and  
36 funding for emerging cultural programs in small towns and other underserved areas;

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

38           A. King County recognizes the significant benefits to individuals and  
39 communities derived from increased access to cultural experiences, such as zoos,  
40 aquariums, museums, heritage sites, the performing arts and other cultural experiences;

41           B. King County recognizes the tremendous contribution that cultural  
42 organizations make to individuals, communities, the region and Washington State and is  
43 committed to supporting them; and

44           C. King County and the Prosperity Partnership Cultural Taskforce share many of  
45 the same goals and objectives. Further, the county supports the Prosperity Partnership  
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47 Cultural Taskforce in its efforts to encourage the state legislature to pass authorizing  
48 legislation to allow the creation of cultural access funds within the state.  
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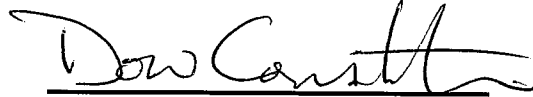
Motion 12929 was introduced on 1/26/2009 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 2/23/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Constantine, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Dunn

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Mr. Ferguson

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dow Constantine, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments**      None