

79-1115

MOTION NO. 0004497

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2 A MOTION relating to the proposed transfer of
3 the Probation Section in the Department of
4 Rehabilitative Services to the District
5 Court, effective January 1, 1980.

6 WHEREAS, within the Department of Rehabilitative Services
7 there is a Probation Section, and

8 WHEREAS, the Probation Section is responsible for preparing
9 presentence reports for the King County Districts Courts,
10 providing counseling/supervision to probationers, and screening
11 and referring law violators to other community resources, when
12 appropriate, and

13 WHEREAS, the 1979 budget for the Probation Section is
14 \$486,818, a budget containing twenty-two personnel positions, and

15 WHEREAS, the Probation Section's operating budget is
16 partially reimbursed to the county based on funds collected by
17 the courts and other county agencies in the form of fines and
18 forfeitures, and

19 WHEREAS, the amount of reimbursement of funds to the county
20 from the District Court's Suspense Fund is projected to be
21 \$266,000, and

22 WHEREAS, it has been argued that the Probation Section
23 should be directly accountable to the courts to insure that
24 rehabilitation services are delivered within a context of
25 insuring that risk to public safety is eliminated or
26 substantially minimized, and

27 WHEREAS, it has been argued that the current organizational
28 placement of the Probation Section in the Department of
29 Rehabilitative Services, within the Executive Administration,
30 results in conflicting organizational goals based on Probation
31 Services competing with other county human services agencies for
32 resources, and

33 WHEREAS, it has been argued that the present lack of the
Probation Section being directly accountable to the courts

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results in a loss of judicial control over the individual offender, continuity of personnel directly responsible for a particular individual, and loss of a mechanism to provide consistent feedback of information regarding the quality of service and the performance of an offender in rehabilitation efforts, and

WHEREAS, the policy of the Council is that the Probation Section should be directly accountable to the District Courts, and

WHEREAS, the section should be organizationally transferred from the Department of Rehabilitative Services to the District Courts with the understanding that existing employees shall remain under the Charter required Career Service System until such time as they terminate employment with King County.

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

The Executive is requested to submit such legislation as is necessary to make the organizational transfer of the Probation Section from the Department of Rehabilitative Services to the District Courts under the District Court Administrator. PROVIDED THAT the transfer would be reflected in the Executive's recommended 1980 Operating Budget and become effective January 1, 1980.

PASSED this 17th day of September, 1979.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Ruby Chow
Chairman

ATTEST:

Janet M. Crane
Deputy Clerk of the Council