

Project title: A RESOLUTION requesting the Governor, the Washington State Legislature, and State Attorney General assist in providing clarification of New Law Enforcement Standards and Requirements

Council Bill #

Agenda dates requested:
9-8-21

Briefing
Proposed action
Consent
Action X
Ordinance
Public hearing
Yes No

Budget amendment:
Yes No

PowerPoint presentation:
Yes No

Attachments:

Department(s) involved:

Contact person:

Phone number:

Email:

Initialed by:

Department head

Administration

Council President

Project: Resolution

Partner/Supplier :

Location:

Preceding action:

Fund:

Fiscal summary statement:

Project summary statement: To request the Governor, State Legislators and State Attorney General to clarify the new Law Enforcement Standards and requirements.

The Washington State Legislature passed numerous police reform bills in the last legislative session.

Several of these bills, especially Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1054, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1310, and Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5051, contain ambiguities in how various new standards and requirements are to be interpreted and implemented by local law enforcement.

These ambiguities have diminished the ability of local law enforcement to provide public safety services expected by their respective communities and to recruit new officers necessary to provide such services.

Legislative action to eliminate these ambiguities and/or a timely Attorney General's Opinion providing guidance on the interpretation and implementation of these new requirements would enhance the ability of local law enforcement to provide essential public safety services.

Recommendation (exact action requested of Council):

Adopt the Resolution requesting the Governor, the Washington State Legislature and State Attorney General assist in providing clarification of New Law Enforcement Standards and Requirements.



RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION Requesting the Governor, the Washington State Legislature, and State Attorney General to Assist in Providing Clarification of New Law Enforcement Standards and Requirements

WHEREAS,

- A. The Washington State Legislature passed numerous police reform bills in the last legislative session.
- B. Several of these bills, to wit Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1054, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1310, and Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5051, contain ambiguities in how various new standards and requirements are to be interpreted and implemented by local law enforcement.
- C. These ambiguities have created confusion among local law enforcement agencies regarding how to provide public safety services expected by their respective communities and to recruit new officers necessary to provide such services.
- D. Legislative action to eliminate these ambiguities and/or a timely Attorney General's Opinion providing guidance on the interpretation and implementation of these new requirements would enhance the ability of local law enforcement to provide essential public safety services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- E. The Governor should call a special session of the legislature to address problems and clarify ambiguities in the recently passed police reform bills.
- F. Our state legislative delegation should make the same request of the Governor.
- G. The State Attorney General should issue a formal Attorney General's Opinion providing guidance on the interpretation of these police reform bills and to develop and issue model polices for implementing this legislation, all as expeditiously as possible.
- H. City administration should communicate this resolution with these urgent requests to our Governor, our state legislators, and the State Attorney General.

Councilmember introducing resolution

Passed and approved this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Council President

Date: _____