
HOUSE BILL 3005

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representative Young

1 AN ACT Relating to improving constituent access and
2 representative engagement; adding a new section to chapter 44.04 RCW;
3 and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** For the convenience of constituents and
6 members, members of the legislature may choose to locate their
7 legislative offices in the legislative district they represent when
8 the legislature is not in session. It is in the best interest of both
9 constituents and members if in-district legislative offices are
10 located in buildings that: Are accessible and easily located; are
11 near transportation, parking, or both; comply with the Americans with
12 disabilities act; are safe and inviting to the average person;
13 maintain a level of decorum and professionalism fitting a legislative
14 office; meet legislative requirements for district offices; and are
15 affordable. The legislature finds that these criteria are likely best
16 met by locating in-district legislative offices in facilities that
17 serve other governmental purposes, such as buildings owned or
18 operated by local governments. It is the intent of the legislature,
19 in enacting the improving constituent access and representative
20 engagement act, to clearly authorize local governments to lease
21 office space to legislative members and to establish that local

1 governments that do so are not thereby obligated to lease real
2 property of the local government to other parties, including the
3 state or private parties.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) If a state legislative member locates his or her legislative
7 office in the legislative district he or she represents, the member
8 may lease appropriate office space from a local government. A local
9 government that chooses to lease office space to a state legislative
10 member for use as a legislative office, by virtue of executing the
11 lease, is not thereby obligated to lease any real property of the
12 local government to any other party, including the state, any
13 political subdivisions of the state, or any private party.

14 (2) A state legislative member who leases office space from a
15 local government for use as a legislative office must comply with all
16 applicable laws, including RCW 42.52.180. A local government, by
17 virtue of leasing office space to a state legislative member for use
18 as a legislative office, does not violate the provisions of RCW
19 42.17A.555.

20 (3) For purposes of this section, "local government" includes
21 every county, city, town, municipal corporation, quasi-municipal
22 corporation, or special purpose district, or any office, department,
23 division, bureau, board, commission, or agency thereof, or other
24 local public agency.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act may be known and cited as the
26 improving constituent access and representative engagement act.

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