
SENATE BILL 6645

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senator Roach

Read first time 02/04/16. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing a city, town, code city, or county to
2 request mediation in the event of a conflict with another city, town,
3 code city, or county; adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW;
4 adding a new section to chapter 35A.21 RCW; and adding a new section
5 to chapter 36.01 RCW.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 When a city or town has a conflict with another city, town, code
10 city, or county, the city or town may request from the attorney
11 general's office the names of three mediators from which the city or
12 town and the other city, town, code city, or county must choose a
13 mediator, unless both jurisdictions agree to use another mediator.
14 The mediator will hear the issues from both sides and render a
15 binding decision based on the best interests of the taxpayers
16 involved. The city or town and the other city, town, code city, or
17 county must divide the costs of the mediator evenly between the two
18 jurisdictions. The mediator may not add additional costs or
19 obligations beyond the mediator's fee to the matter submitted for
20 mediation.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.21
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 When a code city has a conflict with another code city, city,
4 town, or county, the code city may request from the attorney
5 general's office the names of three mediators from which the code
6 city and the other code city, city, town, or county must choose a
7 mediator, unless both jurisdictions agree to use another mediator.
8 The mediator will hear the issues from both sides and render a
9 binding decision based on the best interests of the taxpayers
10 involved. The code city and the other code city, city, town, or
11 county must divide the costs of the mediator evenly between the two
12 jurisdictions. The mediator may not add additional costs or
13 obligations beyond the mediator's fee to the matter submitted for
14 mediation.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 36.01
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 When a county has a conflict with another county, code city,
18 city, or town, the county may request from the attorney general's
19 office the names of three mediators from which the county and the
20 other county, code city, city, or town must choose a mediator, unless
21 both jurisdictions agree to use another mediator. The mediator will
22 hear the issues from both sides and render a binding decision based
23 on the best interests of the taxpayers involved. The county and the
24 other county, code city, city, or town must divide the costs of the
25 mediator evenly between the two jurisdictions. The mediator may not
26 add additional costs or obligations beyond the mediator's fee to the
27 matter submitted for mediation.

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