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Sponsors:	
Attachments:	

1 ..Title

2 AN ORDINANCE proposing an amendment to the King  
3 County Charter to correct typographical and grammatical  
4 errors, apply consistent drafting protocols, enhance  
5 readability and organization and remove no-longer-relevant  
6 language by amending the Preamble, Section 110, Section  
7 130, Section 140, Section 210, Section 220.10, Section  
8 220.20, Section 220.30, Section 230.10, Section 230.10.10,  
9 Section 230.20, Section 230.30, Section 230.40, Section  
10 230.50, Section 230.50.10, Section 230.70, Section 230.75,  
11 Section 240, Section 250, Section 270.10, Section 270.20,  
12 Section 270.30, Section 270.40, Section 310, Section  
13 320.10, Section 320.20, Section 340.10, Section 340.40,  
14 Section 340.50, Section 340.60, Section 350.10, Section  
15 250.20, Section 350.20.10, Section 350.20.20, Section  
16 350.20.40, Section 350.20.50, Section 350.20.61, Section  
17 350.20.65, Section 405, Section 410, Section 420, Section  
18 425.10, Section 425.20, Section 425.30, Section 425.40,  
19 Section 430, Section 450, Section 460, Section 470.10,  
20 Section 470.20, Section 480, Section 490, Section 495,  
21 Section 510, Section 520, Section 530, Section 540, Section

22 550, Section 560, Section 610, Section 630, Section 640,  
23 Section 645, Section 649, Section 650.30.10, Section  
24 650.30.20, Section 650.30.30, Section 660, Section 670,  
25 Section 680, Section 680.10, Section 690, Section 710,  
26 Section 720, Section 730, Section 800, Section 810, Section  
27 830, Section 840, Section 843, Section 850, Section 860,  
28 Section 870, Section 880, Section 890, Section 897 and  
29 Section 898 of the King County Charter, recodifying  
30 Section 898 and Section 899 of the King County Charter,  
31 repealing Section 650.40, Section 650.40.15 and Section  
32 650.40.25 of the King County Charter and submitting the  
33 same to the voters of the county for their ratification or  
34 rejection at the November 9, 2020, general election.

35 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

36 SECTION 1. There shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for  
37 their approval and ratification or rejection, at the November 9, 2020, general election, an  
38 amendment to the Preamble, Section 110, Section 130, Section 140, Section 210, Section  
39 220.10, Section 220.20, Section 220.30, Section 230.10, Section 230.10.10, Section  
40 230.20, Section 230.30, Section 230.40, Section 230.50, Section 230.50.10, Section  
41 230.70, Section 230.75, Section 240, Section 250, Section 270.10, Section 270.20,  
42 Section 270.30, Section 270.40, Section 310, Section 320.10, Section 320.20, Section  
43 340.10, Section 340.40, Section 340.50, Section 340.60, Section 350.10, Section 250.20,  
44 Section 350.20.10, Section 350.20.20, Section 350.20.40, Section 350.20.50, Section

45 350.20.61, 350.20.65, Section 405, Section 410, Section 420, Section 425.10, Section  
46 425.20, Section 425.30, Section 425.40, Section 430, Section 450, Section 460, Section  
47 470.10, Section 470.20, Section 480, Section 490, Section 495, Section 510, Section 520,  
48 Section 530, Section 540, Section 550, Section 560, Section 610, Section 630, Section  
49 640, Section 645, Section 649, Section 650.30.10, Section 650.30.20, Section 650.30.30,  
50 Section 660, Section 670, Section 680, Section 680.10, Section 690, Section 710, Section  
51 720, Section 730, Section 800, Section 810, Section 830, Section 840, Section 843,  
52 Section 850, Section 860, Section 870, Section 880, Section 890, Section 897 and  
53 Section 898 of the King County Charter, recodifying Section 898 and Section 899 of the  
54 King County Charter and repealing Section 650.40, Section 650.40.15 and Section  
55 650.40.25 of the King County Charter, as set forth herein, to read as follows:

56 **PREAMBLE**

57 We, the people of King County, Washington, in order to form a more just and  
58 orderly government, establish separate legislative and executive branches, (~~insure~~) ensure  
59 responsibility and accountability for local and regional county governance and services,  
60 enable effective citizen participation, preserve a healthy rural and urban environment and  
61 economy and secure the benefits of home rule and self-government, in accordance with the  
62 Constitution of the State of Washington, do adopt this charter.

63 **Section 110 General Powers.**

64 The county shall have all of the powers (~~which~~) that it is possible for a home rule  
65 county to have under the state constitution.

66 **Section 130 Construction.**

67 The powers of the county granted by this charter shall be liberally construed, and  
68 the specific statement of particular powers shall not be construed as limiting the general  
69 powers. Reference to the state constitution and general law in this charter shall be  
70 construed as a continuing reference to them as they may be amended from time to time.  
71 This charter and the ordinances enacted hereunder shall supersede special and general laws  
72 ~~((which))~~ that are inconsistent with the charter and ordinances to the extent permitted by  
73 the state constitution.

74 **Section 210 Composition.**

75 The legislative branch ~~((shall be))~~ is composed of the ~~((metropolitan))~~ county  
76 council.

77 **220.10 Composition and Terms of Office.**

78 The ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council ~~((shall))~~ consists of nine members. The county  
79 shall be divided into nine districts, and one councilmember shall be nominated and elected  
80 by the voters of each district. The term of office of each councilmember ~~((shall be))~~ is four  
81 years and until the councilmember's successor is elected and qualified.

82 **220.20 Powers.**

83 The county council ~~((shall be))~~ is the policy-determining body of the county and  
84 ~~((shall have))~~ has all legislative powers of the county under this charter. The county  
85 council; shall exercise its legislative power by the adoption and enactment of ordinances;  
86 shall levy taxes, appropriate revenue and adopt budgets for the county; shall establish the  
87 compensation to be paid to all county officers and employees ~~((and))~~; shall provide for the  
88 reimbursement of expenses; except as otherwise provided ~~((herein shall have))~~ in this  
89 charter, has the power to establish, abolish, combine and divide administrative offices and

90 executive departments and to establish their powers and responsibilities; shall adopt by  
91 ordinance comprehensive plans including improvement plans for the present and future  
92 development of the county; ~~((shall have))~~ and has the power to conduct public hearings on  
93 matters of public concern to assist it in performing its legislative responsibilities and to  
94 subpoena witnesses, documents and other evidence and to administer oaths, but the  
95 subpoena power of the county council ~~((shall be))~~ is limited to matters relating to proposed  
96 ordinances ~~((which))~~ that are being considered by the county council, and any witness  
97 ~~((shall))~~ have the right to be represented by counsel. The specific statement of particular  
98 legislative powers shall not be construed as limiting the legislative powers of the county  
99 council.

100 **220.30 Organization.**

101 The county council shall elect one of its members as chair, ~~((shall be))~~ is  
102 responsible for its own organization and for the employment and supervision of those  
103 employees whom it deems necessary to assist it or individual councilmembers in the  
104 exercise of their legislative powers and shall appoint a clerk to maintain its records.

105 **230.10 Introduction and Adoption.**

106 Proposed ordinances shall be limited to one subject and may be introduced by any  
107 councilmember, by initiative petition, by proposal of a regional committee in accordance  
108 with Section 270.30 of this charter or by institutional initiative. At least seven days after  
109 the introduction of a proposed ordinance, except an emergency ordinance, and ~~((prior to~~  
110 ~~its))~~ before the proposed ordinance's adoption or enactment, the county council shall hold a  
111 public hearing after due notice to consider the proposed ordinance. Except as otherwise

112 provided in this charter, a minimum of five affirmative votes ~~((shall be))~~ is required to  
113 adopt an ordinance.

114 **230.10.10 Metropolitan Municipal Functions.**

115 Each metropolitan municipal function authorized to be performed by the county  
116 ~~((pursuant to RCW ch.))~~ under chapter 35.58 RCW shall be operated as a distinct  
117 functional unit. Revenues or property received for ~~((such))~~ those functions shall never be  
118 used for any purposes other than the operating expenses thereof, interest on and redemption  
119 of the outstanding debt thereof, capital improvements~~((s))~~ and the reduction of rates and  
120 charges for ~~((such))~~ those functions.

121 **230.20 Executive Veto.**

122 Except as otherwise provided in this charter, the county executive ~~((shall have))~~ has  
123 the right to veto any ordinance or any object of expense of an appropriation ordinance.  
124 Every ordinance shall be presented to the county executive within five days after its  
125 adoption or enactment by the county council. Within ten days after its presentation, the  
126 county executive ~~((shall))~~ may either sign the ordinance and return it to the county council,  
127 veto the ordinance and return it to the county council with a written and signed statement of  
128 the reasons for the veto or sign and partially veto an appropriation ordinance and return it to  
129 the county council with a written and signed statement of the reasons for the partial veto. If  
130 an ordinance is not returned by the county executive within ten days after its presentation, it  
131 ~~((shall be deemed))~~ is enacted without the county executive's signature. Within thirty days  
132 after an ordinance has been vetoed and returned or partially vetoed and returned, the county  
133 council may override the veto or partial veto by enacting the ordinance by a minimum of  
134 six affirmative votes.

135           **230.30 Emergency Ordinances.**

136           Any proposed ordinance may be enacted as an emergency ordinance if the county  
137 council finds as a fact, and states in the ordinance, that an emergency exists and that the  
138 ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health or safety or  
139 for the support of county government and its existing public institutions. A minimum of  
140 six affirmative votes ~~((shall be))~~ is required to enact an emergency ordinance; and unless it  
141 is an emergency appropriation ordinance, it ~~((shall))~~ is not ~~((be))~~ subject to the veto power  
142 of the county executive.

143           **230.40 Referendum.**

144           Except as otherwise provided ~~((herein))~~ in this charter, an enacted ordinance may  
145 be subjected to a referendum by the voters of the county by filing with the county council  
146 ~~((prior to))~~ before the effective date of the ordinance petitions bearing signatures of  
147 registered voters of the county equal in number to ~~((not less than))~~ at least eight percent of  
148 the votes cast in the county for the office of county executive at the last preceding election  
149 for county executive. In addition, except as otherwise provided ~~((herein))~~ in this charter, an  
150 enacted ordinance ~~((which pursuant to))~~ that, in accordance with state law, is effective only  
151 in unincorporated areas of the county, may be subjected to a referendum by the voters of  
152 the unincorporated areas of the county by filing with the county council ~~((prior to))~~, before  
153 the effective date of the ordinance, petitions bearing signatures of registered voters residing  
154 in unincorporated areas of the county equal in number to not less than eight percent of the  
155 votes cast at the last preceding election for county executive ~~((, provided))~~. ~~((h))~~ However  
156 ~~((that))~~, the number of required signatures shall be calculated based only upon votes cast  
157 within areas ~~((which))~~ that on the date ~~((such))~~ the petitions are required to be filed are

158 unincorporated areas of the county. Each petition shall contain the full text of the  
159 ordinance to be referred. The ordinance to be referred shall be placed on the ballot at the  
160 special or general election occurring more than forty-five days after the petitions are filed,  
161 ~~((provided that))~~ although in the case of an ordinance effective only in unincorporated areas  
162 of the county, the proposed ordinance shall be voted upon only by the registered voters  
163 residing in unincorporated areas of the county.

164 The following are not subject to a referendum: ~~((A))~~an appropriation ordinance; an  
165 emergency ordinance ~~((necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
166 or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public institutions))~~; an  
167 ordinance proposing amendments to this charter; an ordinance providing for collective  
168 bargaining; an ordinance approving a collective bargaining agreement; an ordinance  
169 providing for the compensation or working conditions of county employees; or an  
170 ordinance ~~((which))~~ that has been approved by the voters by referendum or initiative ~~((shall  
171 not be subject to a referendum))~~.

172 **230.50 Initiative.**

173 Ordinances<sub>2</sub> except ordinances providing for the compensation or working  
174 conditions of county employees<sub>2</sub> may be proposed by filing with the county council  
175 petitions bearing signatures of registered voters of the county equal in number to not less  
176 than ten percent of the votes cast in the county for the office of county executive at the last  
177 preceding election for county executive. In addition, an ordinance ~~((which pursuant to))~~  
178 that, in accordance with state law<sub>2</sub> is effective only in unincorporated areas of the county,  
179 except an ordinance providing for the compensation or working conditions of county  
180 employees, may be proposed by filing with the county council petitions bearing signatures

181 of registered voters residing in unincorporated areas of the county equal in number to not  
182 less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last preceding election for county executive,  
183 ~~((provided, however))~~ except that the number of required signatures shall be calculated  
184 based only upon votes cast within areas ~~((which))~~ that, on the date ~~((such))~~ the petitions are  
185 required to be filed, are unincorporated areas of the county. Each petition shall contain the  
186 full text of the proposed ordinance.

187         The county council shall consider the proposed ordinance. If the proposed  
188 ordinance is not enacted within ninety days after the petitions are presented, it shall be  
189 placed on the ballot at the next regular or special election occurring more than one hundred  
190 thirty-five days after the petitions are filed or at an earlier election designated by the county  
191 council. However, if the proposed ordinance is enacted ~~((at any time prior to))~~ before the  
192 election, it shall not be placed on the ballot or be voted on unless it is subjected to  
193 referendum.

194         If the county council rejects the proposed ordinance and adopts a substitute  
195 ordinance concerning the same subject matter, the substitute ordinance shall be placed on  
196 the same ballot with the proposed ordinance ~~((; and))~~. ~~((†))~~ The voters shall first be given the  
197 choice of accepting either or rejecting both and shall then be given the choice of accepting  
198 one and rejecting the other, ~~((provided))~~ except that in the case of an ordinance effective  
199 only in unincorporated areas of the county, the proposed ordinance shall be voted upon  
200 only by the registered voters residing in unincorporated areas of the county. If a majority  
201 of the voters voting on the first issue is for either, then the ordinance receiving the majority  
202 of the votes cast on the second issue shall be deemed approved. If a majority of those

203 voting on the first issue is for rejecting both, then neither ordinance ~~((shall be))~~ is approved  
204 regardless of the vote on the second issue.

205 **230.50.10 Institutional Initiative.**

206 Any city or town located within the county may, after securing the consent, by  
207 motion or resolution, of at least one half of the cities within the county, propose an  
208 ordinance of ~~((county-wide))~~ countywide significance directly to the ~~((metropolitan))~~  
209 county council, except an ordinance ~~((which))~~ that is not subject to a referendum under  
210 ~~((the provisions of))~~ Section 230.40 of this charter. ~~((Such))~~ The proposed legislation shall  
211 be in ordinance form. The ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council shall take action on ~~((such))~~ the  
212 proposed legislation within ninety ~~((90))~~ days of its filing with the county council.

213 **230.70 Effective Date of Ordinances.**

214 Except as otherwise provided ~~((herein))~~ in this charter, the effective date of an  
215 ordinance ~~((shall be))~~ is ten days after its enactment unless a later date is specified in the  
216 ordinance. If an ordinance may be subjected to a referendum as provided in Section 230.40  
217 of this charter and if a proposed referendum petition is submitted to the clerk of the county  
218 council as provided in ~~((Subsection))~~ Section 230.60 ~~((prior to))~~ of this charter before the  
219 tenth day after its enactment, the effective date of the ordinance ~~((shall be))~~ is forty-five  
220 days after its enactment unless a later date is specified in the ordinance. If an ordinance is  
221 subjected to referendum, it ~~((shall))~~ does not ~~((become effective))~~ take effect until after it is  
222 approved by the voters. If it is approved by a majority of the voters voting on the issue, the  
223 effective date of an ordinance ~~((which))~~ that is subjected to referendum or proposed by  
224 initiative, or a substitute ordinance proposed by the county council as provided in  
225 ~~((Subsection))~~ Section 230.50 of this charter, ~~((shall be))~~ is ten days after the results of the

226 election are certified unless a later date is specified in the ordinance. The effective date of  
227 an emergency ordinance (~~((shall be))~~) is the date of its enactment unless a later date is  
228 specified in the ordinance.

229 An ordinance (~~((which))~~) that is subject to the veto power of the county executive  
230 and (~~((which))~~) that is not vetoed, or the approved portions of an appropriation ordinance  
231 (~~((which))~~) that has been partially vetoed, shall be deemed enacted on the date that it is  
232 approved by, or ten days after it is presented to, the county executive. An ordinance  
233 (~~((which))~~) that is vetoed or the vetoed portions of an appropriation ordinance shall be  
234 deemed enacted on the date that the county council overrides the veto or partial veto. An  
235 ordinance (~~((which))~~) that is not subject to the veto power of the county executive shall be  
236 deemed enacted on the date it is approved by the county council.

237 **230.75 Amendment or Repeal of Ordinances Approved by the Voters.**

238 (~~((No))~~) An ordinance approved by a majority of the voters voting (~~((thereon))~~) on the  
239 ordinance, whether as the result of a referendum or initiative, shall not be amended or  
240 repealed by the county council within a period of two years following the effective date of  
241 (~~((such))~~) the ordinance(~~((; provided))~~), except that (~~((such))~~) the ordinance may be amended  
242 within the two-year period by ordinance adopted by a vote of not less than two-thirds of all  
243 members of the county council, which amendatory ordinance (~~((shall))~~) is not (~~((be))~~) subject  
244 to referendum.

245 An ordinance approved by the voters may be amended or repealed by an ordinance  
246 approved by a majority of the voters voting (~~((thereon))~~) on the ordinance at any special or  
247 general election. Ordinances may be enacted to facilitate and effectuate this (~~((provision))~~)  
248 section.

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**Section 240 Motions.**

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**Section 250 County Auditor.**

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The county council may pass motions to confirm or reject appointments by the county executive, to organize and administer the legislative branch, to make declarations of policy ~~((which))~~ that do not have the force of law and to request information from any other agency of county government. Motions ~~((shall))~~ are not ~~((be))~~ subject to the veto power of the county executive, and the county council in passing motions need not comply with the procedural requirements for the introduction, consideration and adoption of ordinances.

The county auditor shall be appointed by a majority of the county council and ~~((shall be))~~ is responsible to the county council for conducting, or causing to be conducted, independent ~~((post-audits))~~ postaudits of county agencies for the purpose of reporting to the county council regarding the integrity of the function of the financial management system, the quality and efficiency of agency management~~((;))~~ and the effectiveness of programs. In carrying out this purpose, the auditor shall perform the following audits within guidelines established by the county council by ordinance: financial and compliance audits to supplement those performed by the state ~~((pursuant to))~~ in accordance with general law~~((;))~~; economy and efficiency audits~~((;))~~; and program result audits. In addition, the auditor shall perform such special studies as may be requested by the county council. The auditor shall report the results of each agency audit to the county council. Annual audits shall continue to be performed by the state in accordance with general law.

The organization and administration of the auditor's office shall be sufficiently independent to assure no interference or influence external to the organization shall

271 adversely affect an independent and objective judgment by the auditor and the auditor shall  
272 be provided a discrete budget and staff allocation.

273 **270.10 Regional Committees.**

274 Three regional committees shall be established by ordinance to develop,  
275 recommend and review regional policies and plans for consideration by the  
276 ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council: one for transit~~((;))~~; one for water quality; and one for  
277 other regional policies and plans.

278 **270.20 Composition of regional committees.**

279 Each regional committee shall consist of nine voting members. Three members  
280 shall be ~~((metropolitan))~~ county councilmembers appointed by the chair of the county  
281 council, and shall include councilmembers from districts with unincorporated residents.  
282 Each county councilmember vote shall be weighted as two votes. The remaining six  
283 members of each committee except the water quality committee shall be local elected city  
284 officials appointed from and in proportion to the relative populations of: ~~((+))~~ (1) the city  
285 with the largest population in the county; and ~~((+))~~ (2) the other cities and towns in the  
286 county. Committee members from the city with the largest population in the county shall  
287 be appointed by the legislative authority of that city. Committee members from the other  
288 cities and towns in the county shall be appointed in a manner agreed to by and among those  
289 cities and towns representing a majority of the populations of ~~((such))~~ those other cities and  
290 towns, ~~((provided, however, that such))~~, though those cities and towns representing the  
291 majority of those other cities and towns may appoint two representatives for each allocated  
292 committee membership, with each ~~((with fractional (1/2) voting rights))~~ representative  
293 having one-half of a vote in the committee.

294           The special purpose districts providing sewer service in the county shall appoint  
295 two members to serve on the water quality committee in a manner agreed to by districts  
296 representing a majority of the population within the county served by ~~((such))~~ those  
297 districts. The remaining four local government members of the water quality committee  
298 shall be appointed in the manner set forth ~~((above))~~ in the first paragraph of this section for  
299 other regional committees. The county council may by ordinance authorize the  
300 appointment to the water quality committee of additional, nonvoting members representing  
301 entities outside of the county that receive sewerage treatment services from the county.  
302 Allocation of membership of each committee's members who are city and town  
303 representatives shall be adjusted January 1 of each even-numbered year ~~((beginning in~~  
304 ~~1996))~~ based upon current census information or, if more recent, official state office of  
305 financial management population statistics.

306           In the event any areas are annexed ~~((pursuant to))~~ under powers granted to  
307 metropolitan municipal corporations under state law, the populations of any cities and  
308 towns in ~~((such))~~ the annexed areas shall be considered as if they were within the county  
309 for purposes in this section with regard to regional committee participation on policies and  
310 plans ~~((which))~~ that would be effective in ~~((such))~~ the annexed areas.

311           Members representing six and one-half votes constitute a quorum of a regional  
312 committee. In the absence of a quorum, the committee may perform all committee  
313 functions except for voting on legislation or a work program. Each committee shall have a  
314 chair and a vice-chair with authority as specified by ordinance. The chair shall be a county  
315 councilmember appointed by the chair of the county council. The vice-chair shall be  
316 appointed by majority vote of those committee members who are not county

317 councilmembers, in accordance with voting rights that are apportioned as provided in this  
318 section.

319 **270.30 Powers and Duties.**

320 Each regional committee shall develop, propose, review and recommend action on  
321 ordinances and motions adopting, repealing~~((;))~~ or amending transit, water quality or other  
322 regional countywide policies and plans within the subject matter area of the committee.

323 The subject matter area of the regional policies committee shall consist of those  
324 countywide plans and policies included in the committee's work program by a majority of  
325 the members present and voting, with no fewer than three and one-half affirmative votes.

326 The county council shall refer each such a proposed ordinance or motion, except  
327 ~~((these))~~ any developed and proposed by a regional committee, to a regional committee for  
328 review. The regional committee shall complete review and recommend action within one  
329 hundred twenty days or ~~((such other))~~ another time as is jointly established by the county  
330 council and the committee, which shall be confirmed in the form of a motion by the  
331 ~~((metropolitan))~~ county council. If the committee fails to act upon the proposed ordinance  
332 or motion within the established time limit, the county council may adopt the proposed  
333 ordinance or motion upon six affirmative votes. The committee may request, by motion to  
334 the county council, additional time for review.

335 A proposed ordinance or motion that has been reviewed and recommended or  
336 developed and proposed by a regional committee may be adopted, without amendment, by  
337 the county council by five affirmative votes. If the county council votes ~~((prior to))~~ before  
338 final passage thereof to amend a proposed ordinance or motion that has been reviewed or  
339 recommended or proposed by a regional committee, the proposed ordinance or motion, as

340 amended, shall be referred back to the appropriate committee for further review and  
341 recommendation. The committee may concur in, dissent from~~((5))~~ or recommend  
342 additional amendments to the ordinance or motion. After the regional committee has had  
343 the opportunity to review all county council amendments, final action to adopt any  
344 proposed ordinance or motion that differs from the committee recommendation shall  
345 require six affirmative votes of the county council.

346 Each regional committee may develop and propose directly to the county council an  
347 ordinance or motion adopting, amending or repealing a countywide policy or plan within  
348 the subject matter area of the committee. ~~((Such))~~ The proposals must be approved by a  
349 majority of the members present and voting, with ~~((no fewer than))~~ at least three and one-  
350 half affirmative votes. Within one hundred twenty days of introduction or such other time  
351 as is jointly established by the county council and the committee, which shall be confirmed  
352 in the form of a motion by the county council and the committee, which shall be confirmed  
353 in the form of a motion by the county council, the county council shall consider the  
354 proposed legislation and take such action thereon as it deems appropriate, as provided by  
355 ordinance.

356 The county council shall not call a special election to authorize the performance of  
357 an additional metropolitan municipal function under state law unless ~~((such))~~ the additional  
358 function is recommended by a regional policy committee, notwithstanding ~~((the provisions~~  
359 ~~of))~~ Section 230.50.10 of this charter. ~~((Such))~~ The recommendation shall require an  
360 affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the membership of each of: (1) ~~((metropolitan))~~  
361 councilmembers of the committee; (2) members from the city with the largest population in  
362 the county; and (3) other city or town members of the committee. Nothing in this section

363 prohibits the ((metropolitan)) county council from calling a special election on the  
364 authorization of the performance of one or more additional metropolitan functions after  
365 receiving a valid resolution adopted by city councils, as permitted by RCW 35.58.100(1)(a)  
366 and RCW 35.58.100(1)(b), or a duly certified petition, as permitted by RCW 35.58.100(2).

367 **270.40 Invalidation-Development of Proposed Amendment.**

368 If any provision of ((s))Section 270 of this charter is declared invalid, the  
369 ((metropolitan)) county council shall initiate a process with representatives of cities and  
370 towns within the county to develop a proposed charter amendment providing for effective  
371 city, town((s)) and unincorporated area participation in regional decisions.

372 **Section 310 Composition and Powers.**

373 The executive branch ((shall be)) is composed of the county executive, the county  
374 administrative officer, the county assessor, the officers and employees of administrative  
375 offices and executive departments established by this charter or created by the county  
376 council and the members of the boards and commissions, except the forecast council and  
377 office of economic and financial analysis, the board of appeals and the personnel board.  
378 The executive branch shall have all executive powers of the county under this charter.

379 **320.10 Election, Term of Office and Compensation.**

380 The county executive shall be nominated and elected by the voters of the county,  
381 and the county executive's term of office ((e)) is four years and until the county executive's  
382 successor is elected and qualified. The county executive shall receive compensation at  
383 least one and one-half times the compensation paid to a councilmember.

384 **320.20 Powers and Duties.**

385           The county executive (~~shall be~~): is the chief executive officer of the county  
386 (~~and~~); shall have all the executive powers of the county (~~which~~) that are not expressly  
387 vested in other specific elective officers by this charter; shall supervise all administrative  
388 offices and executive departments established by this charter or created by the county  
389 council; shall be the chief peace officer of the county and shall execute and enforce all  
390 ordinances and state statutes within the county; shall serve on all boards and commissions  
391 on which a county commissioner was required to serve (~~prior to~~) before the adoption of  
392 this charter, but if more than one county commissioner was required to serve, the county  
393 council shall appoint one or more councilmembers to serve on the board or commission  
394 with the county executive; shall present to the county council an annual statement of the  
395 financial and governmental affairs of the county and any other report (~~which~~) that the  
396 county executive may deem necessary; shall prepare and present to the county council  
397 budgets and a budget message setting forth the programs (~~which~~) that the county  
398 executive proposes for the county during the next fiscal year; shall prepare and present to  
399 the county council comprehensive plans including capital improvement plans for the  
400 present and future development of the county; shall have the power to veto any ordinance  
401 adopted by the county council except as otherwise provided in this charter; shall have the  
402 power to assign duties to administrative offices and executive departments (~~which~~) that  
403 are not specifically assigned by this charter or by ordinance; and shall sign, or cause to be  
404 signed, on behalf of the county all deeds, contracts and other instruments. The specific  
405 statement of particular executive powers shall not be construed as limiting the executive  
406 powers of the county executive.

407           **340.10 Appointments by the County Executive.**

408 The county executive shall appoint the county administrative officer and the chief  
409 officer of each executive department except ~~((the county assessor))~~ those that are elected by  
410 the voters of the county, and shall appoint the members of all boards and commissions  
411 except as otherwise provided in this charter.

412 **340.40 Confirmation.**

413 The appointments by the county executive ~~((shall be))~~ are subject to confirmation  
414 by a majority of the county council. The appointments by the county administrative officer  
415 ~~((shall be))~~ are subject to approval by the county executive.

416 **340.50 Qualifications.**

417 The county administrative officer and the chief officers appointed by either the  
418 county executive or the county administrative officer shall be appointed on the basis of  
419 their abilities, qualifications, integrity and prior experience concerning the duties of the  
420 office to which they ~~((shall be))~~ are appointed.

421 **340.60 Removal.**

422 Any officer, board ~~((or))~~ member, commission member~~((,))~~ or employee<sub>2</sub> who is  
423 not a member of the career service<sub>2</sub> may be removed at any time by the officer who  
424 appointed that person, except that a member of the personnel board or the board of appeals  
425 may be removed only by a majority of the county council as provided in this charter.

426 **350.10 Administrative Offices.**

427 The administrative offices shall consist of those agencies of the executive branch  
428 ~~((which))~~ that provide administrative services for the various agencies of county  
429 government.

430 **350.20 Executive Departments.**

431 The executive departments shall consist of the department of assessments, the  
432 department of judicial administration, the department of public safety, the department of  
433 elections, the department of public defense and those agencies of the executive branch  
434 ~~((which))~~ that are primarily engaged in the execution and enforcement of ordinances and  
435 statutes concerning the public peace, health and safety and ~~((which))~~ that furnish or provide  
436 governmental services directly to or for the residents of the county.

437 **350.20.10 Department of Assessments.**

438 The department of assessments shall be administered by the county assessor who  
439 shall perform the duties specified by general law. The county assessor shall be elected by  
440 the voters of the county unless general law ~~((shall))~~ provides otherwise, and the county  
441 assessor's term of office ~~((shall be))~~ is four years. The department of assessments ~~((shall~~  
442 ~~be))~~ is an executive department subject to the personnel system and shall utilize the  
443 services of the administrative offices and the executive departments, but it shall not be  
444 abolished or combined with any other executive department or administrative office and  
445 shall not have its duties decreased by the county council.

446 **350.20.20 Department of Judicial Administration.**

447 The department of judicial administration shall be administered by the superior  
448 court clerk, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of a majority of the  
449 superior court judges in the county. The department of judicial administration shall  
450 maintain the official court files, records and indexes necessary for the efficient  
451 administration of justice and the court system and shall perform such other duties as are  
452 assigned to it by a majority of the superior court judges in the county.

453 The department of judicial administration (~~shall be~~) is an executive department  
454 subject to the personnel system and shall utilize the services of the administrative offices  
455 and the executive departments, but it shall not be abolished by the county council.

456 **350.20.40 Department of Public Safety.**

457 The department of public safety shall be administered by the county sheriff, who  
458 shall perform the duties specified by general law. The county sheriff shall be elected by the  
459 voters of the county, and the county sheriff's term of office (~~shall be~~) is four years. The  
460 department of public safety (~~shall be~~) is an executive department subject to the civil  
461 service personnel system and shall utilize the services of the administrative offices and the  
462 executive departments, but it shall not be abolished or combined with any other executive  
463 department or administrative office and shall not have its duties decreased by the county  
464 council.

465 **350.20.50 Department of Elections.**

466 The department of elections shall be administered by the county director of  
467 elections who shall perform the duties specified by general law. The county director of  
468 elections shall be elected by the voters of King County, and the county director of  
469 elections's term of office (~~shall be~~) is four years. The department of elections(~~shall be~~)  
470 is an executive department subject to the career service personnel system and shall utilize  
471 the services of the administrative offices and the executive departments, but it shall not be  
472 abolished or combined with any other executive department or administrative office and  
473 shall not have its duties decreased by the county council or county executive. The  
474 department of elections (~~shall be~~): is responsible for the registration of voters in the  
475 county; shall conduct all special and general elections held in the county; (~~shall be~~) is

476 responsible for creating and printing the King County voter's pamphlet; shall maintain and  
477 be the official repository of political boundary maps, geographic information systems data  
478 and of the King County copies of campaign financial disclosure forms; and shall administer  
479 other public and nonpublic elections, as required by state law and county (~~code~~)  
480 ordinance and administrative rules.

481 **Section 350.20.61(~~(c)~~) Administration of the Department of Public Defense.**

482 The department of public defense shall be managed by the county public defender.  
483 The department shall utilize the services of the executive departments and administrative  
484 offices as administered by the county executive.

485 The county public defender shall be appointed by the county executive, subject to  
486 confirmation by the county council, to a term that ends at the same time as the term of the  
487 county prosecuting attorney, unless removed earlier by the county executive for cause,  
488 including the grounds for vacancy for elective office under Section 680 of this charter and  
489 such other grounds as the county council may prescribe by ordinance. The removal may be  
490 appealed by the defender to the county council by a process to be prescribed by ordinance.  
491 The county council's determination (~~shall be~~) is final.

492 The county executive shall appoint the county public defender from candidates  
493 recommended by the public defense advisory board under a process prescribed by  
494 ordinance. Qualifications of the county public defender may be established by ordinance.  
495 The county executive may reappoint the county public defender to additional terms, subject  
496 to confirmation by the county council. Confirmation of the appointment or reappointment,  
497 or removal when appealed, shall require the affirmative votes of at least five members of  
498 the county council.

499           **Section 350.20.65((=)) Public Defense Advisory Board.**

500           The public defense advisory board is established to review, advise and report on the  
501 department of public defense in a manner that may be prescribed by ordinance. The board  
502 shall also advise the county executive and county council on matters of equity and social  
503 justice related to public defense. In the event of a vacancy in the office of county public  
504 defender, the board shall recommend candidates from whom the county executive shall  
505 make an appointment to fill the vacancy subject to confirmation by the county council.  
506 The county council shall prescribe by ordinance the board's membership, process and  
507 qualifications for appointment to the board, rules and procedures, and may prescribe by  
508 ordinance additional duties of the board.

509           **Section 405 Biennial Budgets.**

510           The county council may, subject to ~~((the provisions of s))~~Section 230 of this  
511 charter, adopt an ordinance providing for a biennial budget cycle for any or all county  
512 funds, with a midbiennium review and modification for the second year of the biennium,  
513 including specifying the process and timeline for major tasks in the biennial budget  
514 process. References in this charter to the fiscal year or to specific dates shall apply to the  
515 corresponding annual or biennial period or date for any such fund or funds. Any references  
516 to a "quarter of a fiscal year" mean three months. The county council may adopt additional  
517 and emergency appropriations ordinances for such fund or funds in the same manner and  
518 subject to the same conditions as otherwise provided in this charter. The county council  
519 may repeal such an ordinance and revert to adopting annual budgets for any fund or funds,  
520 commencing after the end of any biennial budget cycle.

521           **Section 410 Presentation and Adoption of Budgets.**

522 At least ninety-five days (~~(prior to)~~) before the end of each fiscal year, the county  
523 executive shall present to the county council a complete budget and budget message,  
524 proposed current expense and capital budget appropriation ordinances(~~(s)~~) and proposed tax  
525 and revenue ordinances necessary to raise sufficient revenues to balance the budget; and at  
526 least thirty days (~~(prior to)~~) before the end of the fiscal year, the county council shall adopt  
527 appropriation, tax and revenue ordinances for the next fiscal year.

528 **Section 420 Budget Information.**

529 At least one hundred fifty-five days (~~(prior to)~~) before the end of the fiscal year, all  
530 agencies of county government shall submit to the county executive information necessary  
531 to prepare the budget.

532 **425.10(~~(s)~~) Forecast Council and Office of Economic and Financial Analysis.**

533 The county council shall by ordinance establish the forecast council, which shall  
534 adopt official county economic and revenue forecasts that must be used as the basis for the  
535 county executive's budget proposals. The county council shall by ordinance establish the  
536 office of economic and financial analysis.

537 **425.20(~~(s)~~) Oversight of Office of Economic and Financial Analysis.**

538 The forecast council shall by unanimous vote appoint the chief county economist  
539 who shall administer the office of economic and financial analysis. The forecast council  
540 shall conduct an open and competitive process to select the chief economist. The chief  
541 economist may be removed by a vote of three members of the forecast council. The chief  
542 economist (~~(shall be)~~) is responsible for the employment and supervision of those  
543 employees whom (~~(he or she)~~) the chief economist deems necessary to assist in the  
544 performance of the duties of the office.

545 The forecast council shall approve an annual work program for the office of  
546 economic and financial analysis and also may assign additional economic and financial  
547 studies to the office.

548 **425.30(=) Forecast Council Composition.**

549 The forecast council shall be composed of the county executive, two county council  
550 members and a county employee with knowledge of the budgeting and financial  
551 management practices of the county to be appointed by the county executive. County  
552 council members shall be appointed annually by the chair of the county council.

553 Appointments to the forecast council (~~(shall)~~) are not (~~(be)~~) subject to confirmation.

554 **425.40(=) Revenue Forecasts.**

555 By March 1 and at least one hundred-seventy days (~~(prior to)~~) before the end of  
556 each year or alternate dates approved by a majority of the forecast council of each year, the  
557 chief economist shall prepare, respectively, proposed preliminary and updated official  
558 economic and revenue forecasts for county government and submit these to the forecast  
559 council. Forecasts may be adopted or revised by a vote of the majority of the forecast  
560 council within fifteen days of their submittal by the chief economist, or the forecast shall be  
561 deemed adopted. The preliminary forecast shall be used as the basis for the county  
562 executive's preliminary budget preparation including preparation of the status quo budget,  
563 budget instructions to departments, and preliminary review of departmental submittals to  
564 the county executive. The updated forecast shall be used as the basis for the county  
565 executive's proposed budget. The most-current forecast shall be used as the basis for  
566 budget amendments.

567 **Section 430 Contents of Budget.**

568           The budget shall; include all funds, revenues and reserves; ~~((shall))~~ be divided into  
569 programs, projects and objects of expense ~~((and shall))~~; include supporting data deemed  
570 advisable by the county executive or required by ordinance; ~~((shall))~~ indicate as to each  
571 program, project or object of expense the actual expenditures of the preceding fiscal year,  
572 the estimated expenditures for the current fiscal year and requested appropriations for the  
573 next fiscal year; and ~~((shall))~~ include the proposed capital improvement program for the  
574 next six fiscal years. The expenditures included in the budget for the ensuing fiscal year  
575 shall not exceed the estimated revenues as forecast under Section 425.40 of this charter.

576           **Section 450 Copies of Budget.**

577           Copies of the budget and budget message shall be delivered to the clerk and each  
578 councilmember. ~~((Prior to))~~ Before the public hearing on the budget, the budget message  
579 and supporting tables shall be furnished to any interested person upon request, and copies  
580 of the budget shall be furnished for a reasonable fee as established by ordinance and shall  
581 be available for public inspection.

582           **Section 460 Consideration and Adoption of Appropriation Ordinances.**

583           ~~((Prior to))~~ Before the adoption of any appropriation ordinances for the next fiscal  
584 ~~((year))~~ period, the county council shall hold a public hearing to consider the budget  
585 presented by the county executive and shall hold any other public hearing on the budget or  
586 any part thereof that it deems advisable. The county council in considering the  
587 appropriations ordinances proposed by the county executive may delete or add items, may  
588 reduce or increase the proposed appropriations and may add provisions restricting the  
589 expenditures of certain appropriations; but it shall not change the form of the proposed  
590 appropriation ordinances submitted by the county executive. The appropriation ordinances

591 adopted by the county council shall not exceed the estimated revenues of the county for the  
592 next fiscal ~~((year))~~ period or each fund including surpluses and reserves, but the county  
593 council may increase the amount of the estimated revenues contained in the budget  
594 presented by the county executive by reestimating the amount by motion passed by a  
595 minimum of six affirmative votes or by creating additional sources of revenue ~~((which))~~  
596 that were not included in the proposed tax and revenue ordinances presented by the county  
597 executive.

598 **470.10 Contingency Appropriations.**

599 The appropriation ordinances shall include contingency ~~((funds))~~ appropriations,  
600 which shall not be expended unless the county executive certifies in writing that sufficient  
601 funds are available and the county council adopts an additional appropriation ordinance  
602 after being requested to do so by the county executive.

603 **470.20 Emergency Appropriations.**

604 The county council may adopt an emergency appropriation ordinance, which may  
605 appropriate contingency ~~((funds))~~ appropriations, revenues received in excess of the  
606 revenues estimated in the budget and ~~((funds))~~ money from any other source available to  
607 the county in an emergency.

608 **Section 480 Lapses of Appropriations.**

609 Unless otherwise provided by the appropriation ordinances, all unexpended and  
610 unencumbered appropriations in the current expense appropriation ordinances ~~((shall))~~  
611 lapse at the end of the fiscal year. An appropriation in the capital budget appropriation  
612 ordinances ~~((shall))~~ lapses when the project ~~((has been))~~ is completed or is abandoned or  
613 when ~~((no))~~ an expenditure or encumbrance has not been made for three years.

614           **Section 490 Interfund Borrowing and Reimbursement.**

615           One agency of county government or fund may reimburse another agency or fund  
616 for services rendered, and the county council, when requested to do so by the county  
617 executive, may adopt an ordinance to provide for temporary interfund borrowing.

618           **Section 495 Illegal Contracts.**

619           Except as otherwise provided by ordinance(~~(7)~~): any contract in excess of an  
620 appropriation (~~(shall be)~~) is null and void; and any officer, agent or employee of the county  
621 knowingly responsible (~~(shall be)~~) for a contract in excess of an appropriation is personally  
622 liable to anyone damaged by the action. The county council, when requested to do so by  
623 the county executive, may adopt an ordinance permitting the county to enter into contracts  
624 requiring the payment of funds from appropriations of subsequent fiscal years, but real  
625 property shall not be leased to the county for more than one year unless it is included in a  
626 capital budget appropriation ordinance.

627           **Section 510 Purpose.**

628           The county shall establish and maintain an effective personnel system for the  
629 county (~~(which)~~) that will (~~(assure)~~) ensure: recruitment, selection and retention of county  
630 employees on the basis of merit; the development of a county career service; promotion on  
631 the basis of demonstrated ability; and compensation and personnel practices (~~(which)~~) that  
632 will keep the county system competitive.

633           **Section 520 Administration.**

634           The county executive shall administer the personnel system of the county in  
635 accordance with the personnel rules adopted by the county council by ordinance. The  
636 county administrative officer shall prepare and present proposed personnel rules to the

637 county executive, who shall present a proposed ordinance establishing the personnel rules  
638 to the county council, which shall adopt the ordinance with or without amendments.

639 **Section 530 Personnel Rules.**

640 The personnel rules shall provide for: the classification of all employed positions  
641 based on the duties, authority and responsibility of each position with adequate provisions  
642 for reclassification of any position whenever warranted; a pay plan for all county positions;  
643 methods for determining the merit and fitness of candidates for appointment or promotion;  
644 policies and procedures concerning reductions in force and removal of employees; hours of  
645 work, attendance, regulations and provisions for vacations and sick leaves; policies and  
646 procedures for persons holding provisional appointments; policies and procedures  
647 governing relationships with employee organizations; policies governing in-service  
648 training; grievance procedures; procedures for disciplinary actions for just cause; penalties  
649 for violation of ~~((the provisions of))~~ Section 560 of this charter; and other related policies  
650 and procedures.

651 **Section 540 The Personnel Board.**

652 There shall be a personnel board composed of five members, four of whom shall be  
653 appointed by the county executive subject to confirmation by a majority of the county  
654 council. One member of the personnel board shall be elected by secret ballot by the county  
655 employees who are members of the career service according to the procedure established  
656 by ordinance. A personnel board member shall serve a five-year term and until the  
657 member's successor is appointed or elected, with one member being appointed each year.  
658 A majority of the county council, but not the county executive, may remove a personnel  
659 board member for just cause after written charges have been served on the personnel board

660 member and a public hearing has been held by the county council. The county council may  
661 provide for the compensation of personnel board members on a per diem basis.

662 The personnel board shall report at least once a year to the county executive  
663 concerning the operation of the personnel system with any recommendations it may have  
664 for its improvement.

665 Any member of the career service may appeal to the personnel board~~((;))~~ from any  
666 action pertaining to the methods of examination, appointment or promotion; from any  
667 suspension for more than sixty days, reduction in rank ~~((;))~~ reduction in pay~~((;))~~ or  
668 removal; and from any classification or reclassification of positions. The personnel board  
669 shall hold a public hearing to consider an appeal and shall issue such orders as it deems  
670 proper including, but not limited to, the restoration of rank or pay, with or without loss of  
671 benefits and pay, and the allocation and reallocation of positions. The decision of the  
672 personnel board ~~((shall be))~~ is final unless reviewed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

673 **Section 550 Career Service Positions.**

674 All county employees and officers ~~((shall be))~~ are members of the career service  
675 except those in the following positions: all elected officers; the county auditor, the clerk  
676 and all other employees of the county council; the county administrative officer; the chief  
677 officer of each executive department and administrative office; the members of all boards  
678 and commissions; the chief economist and other employees of the office of economic and  
679 financial analysis; administrative assistants for the county executive and one administrative  
680 assistant each for the county administrative officer, the county auditor, the county assessor,  
681 the chief officer of each executive department and administrative office and for each board  
682 and commission; a chief deputy for the county assessor; one confidential secretary each for

683 the county executive, the chief officer of each executive department and administrative  
684 office, and for each administrative assistant specified in this section; all employees of those  
685 officers who are exempted from ~~((the provisions of))~~ this charter by the state constitution;  
686 persons employed in a professional or scientific capacity to conduct a special inquiry,  
687 investigation or examination; part-time and temporary employees; administrative interns;  
688 election precinct officials; all persons serving the county without compensation; physicians;  
689 surgeons; dentists; medical interns; and student nurses and inmates employed by county  
690 hospitals, tuberculosis sanitariums and health departments of the county.

691 Part-time Employees. All part-time employees ~~((shall be))~~ are exempted from  
692 career service membership, except, effective January 1, 1989, all part-time employees  
693 employed at least half-time or more, as defined by ordinance, shall be members of the  
694 career service.

695 **Section 560 Political Activities.**

696 The political activities of county employees and officers ~~((shall be))~~ are governed  
697 by the applicable provisions of state law.

698 **Section 610 Election Procedures.**

699 The nominating primaries and elections for the offices of King County ~~((executive,  
700 King County assessor, King County council and King County prosecuting attorney))~~ that  
701 are elected by the voters of the county shall be conducted in accordance with general law  
702 governing the election of nonpartisan county officers.

703 **Section 630 Qualifications.**

704 Each county officer holding an elective office shall be, at the time of the officer's  
705 appointment or election and at all times while the officer holds office~~((7))~~; at least twenty-

706 one years of age((~~7~~)); a citizen of the United States and a resident and registered voter of  
707 King County; and, for each councilmember ((~~shall be~~)), a resident of the district that the  
708 councilmember represents. Any change in the boundaries of a councilmember's district  
709 that causes the councilmember to be no longer a resident of the district that the  
710 councilmember represents ((~~shall~~)) does not disqualify the councilmember from holding  
711 office during the remainder of the term for which the councilmember was elected or  
712 appointed. Additional qualifications for those separately elected officials who head  
713 executive departments may be established by ordinance.

714 **Section 640 County Executive and County Assessor.**

715 The county executive and county assessor shall be nominated and elected as  
716 nonpartisan offices by the voters of the county. The nomination and election of the county  
717 executive and county assessor shall be held every four years as a county general election at  
718 the same time as the general election for cities in the county commencing with the election  
719 of 1971 for the county assessor and with the election of 1973 for the county executive.

720 **Section 645 County Sheriff; Election, Term of Office and Compensation.**

721 The county sheriff shall be nominated and elected as a ((~~non-partisan~~)) nonpartisan  
722 office by the voters of the county, and the term of office ((~~shall be~~)) is four years and until  
723 the county sheriff's successor is elected and qualified. The initial election for county sheriff  
724 ((~~shall be~~)) was at the general election in 1997. The county sheriff shall receive  
725 compensation as provided by ordinance.

726 **Section 649 County Prosecuting Attorney.**

727 The county prosecuting attorney shall be elected as a nonpartisan office by the  
728 voters of the county, and the term of office ((~~shall be~~)) is for four years and until ((~~his or~~

729 ~~her~~) the county prosecuting attorney's successor is elected and qualified. Notwithstanding  
730 any section of this charter to the contrary, the qualifications for office and the timing of  
731 election (~~shall be~~) are as prescribed in state law.

732 **650.30.10 District Boundaries.**

733 The boundaries of each district shall correspond as nearly as practical with the  
734 boundaries of election precincts, municipalities and census tracts and shall be: drawn to  
735 produce districts with compact and contiguous territory~~((;))~~; composed of economic and  
736 geographic units; and approximately equal in population.

737 **650.30.20 Districting Committee.**

738 During (~~the month of~~) January~~((;))~~ 2001, and by January 31 of each tenth year  
739 thereafter, a five-member districting committee shall be appointed. The county council  
740 shall appoint four persons to the committee, the four to appoint the fifth, who shall be the  
741 chairperson. The districting committee shall no later than April 1 following (~~their~~) its  
742 appointment meet and appoint a districting master, who shall be qualified by education,  
743 training and experience to draw a districting plan. If the districting committee is unable to  
744 agree upon the appointment of a districting master by April 1, the county council shall  
745 appoint a districting master by May 31 of that year.

746 **650.30.30 Districting Plan.**

747 The districting master shall draw a districting plan for the county, which shall be  
748 submitted by December 31 of the same year to the districting committee for adoption with  
749 or without amendment by the districting committee. The districting committee shall adopt  
750 the districting plan within fifteen days. Upon adoption, the districting plan shall be

751 submitted to the clerk of the county council by the districting committee. The plan ~~((shall~~  
752 ~~become effective))~~ takes effect upon filing.

753 **Section 650.40 repealed.** Section 650.40 of the King County Charter,  
754 "Transitional Provisions," is hereby repealed.

755 **Section 650.40.15 repealed.** Section 650.40.15 of the King County Charter,  
756 "Districting in 2004," is hereby repealed.

757 **Section 650.40.25 repealed.** Section 650.40.25 of the King County Charter,  
758 "Elections and terms of office for 2004 and thereafter," is hereby repealed.

759 **Section 660 Commencement of Terms of Office.**

760 The terms of office of elected county officers ~~((shall))~~ commence on the date  
761 specified by general law for public officers elected at city general elections.

762 **Section 670 Recall.**

763 The holder of any elective office may be recalled in accordance with ~~((the~~  
764 ~~provisions of))~~ general law.

765 **Section 680 Vacancies.**

766 An elective county office ~~((shall become))~~ is vacant upon the incumbent's: death;  
767 resignation; recall; conviction of a felony, crime involving moral turpitude, unlawful  
768 destruction of court records~~((;))~~ or other crime pertinent to the incumbent's office;  
769 declaration of incompetency by a court of competent jurisdiction; absence from the county  
770 for ~~((a period of))~~ more than thirty days without the permission of a majority of the county  
771 council; or failure to fulfill or continue to fulfill the qualifications for office~~((; provided,))~~.  
772 ~~((h))~~However, ~~((that))~~ an elective county office ~~((shall))~~ is not ~~((become))~~ vacant as the

773 result of a criminal conviction or declaration of incompetency until the conviction or  
774 declaration ((has become)) is final and is no longer subject to appeal.

775 **680.10 Designation, Appointment and Election to Fill Vacancy.**

776 Immediately upon commencing their terms of office, the county executive, county  
777 assessor, county director of elections, county prosecuting attorney and county sheriff shall  
778 each designate one or more employees who serve as a deputy or assistant in such office to  
779 serve as an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county  
780 executive, county assessor, county director of elections, county prosecuting attorney or  
781 county sheriff, respectively.

782 Except for a designation made by the ((metropolitan)) county council, a designation  
783 of an interim official shall only be effective if the county executive, county assessor, county  
784 director of elections, county prosecuting attorney and county sheriff, each for that officer's  
785 elective office, complies with the following procedure((;)): commits the designation to  
786 writing; identifies the order of precedence if more than one county officer or employee is  
787 designated; signs the written designation; has the written designation notarized; files the  
788 written designation with the county office responsible for records; and provides a copy of  
789 the written designation to the chair of the ((metropolitan)) county council. The county  
790 executive, county assessor, county director of elections, county prosecuting attorney and  
791 county sheriff may, at any time, amend ((such)) the designation by complying with the  
792 same procedure established for making the designation.

793 In the event the county executive, county assessor, county director of elections,  
794 county prosecuting attorney or county sheriff neglects or fails to make such a designation  
795 within seven calendar days of commencing ((his or her)) the term of office, the

796 ((~~metropolitan~~)) county council may by ordinance designate one or more employees who  
797 serve as a deputy or assistant in ((~~such~~)) the office to serve as an interim official in the  
798 event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county executive, county assessor, county  
799 director of elections, county prosecuting attorney or county sheriff, respectively. A  
800 designation made by the ((~~metropolitan~~)) county council ((~~shall be effective~~)) takes effect  
801 upon adoption of the ordinance therefor and may be amended by ordinance((~~;~~ ~~provided~~  
802 ~~that~~)), but a designation by the county executive, county assessor, county director of  
803 elections, county prosecuting attorney or county sheriff ((~~which~~)) that occurs subsequent to  
804 the adoption of an ordinance shall take precedence over the designation by ordinance.

805         The designated county officer or employee shall immediately upon the occurrence  
806 of a vacancy serve as the interim official and shall exercise all the powers and duties of the  
807 office granted by this charter and general law until an acting official is appointed as  
808 provided in this section.

809         The ((~~metropolitan~~)) county council shall, after being appraised of a vacancy in the  
810 elective office of county executive, county assessor, county director of elections, county  
811 prosecuting attorney or county sheriff, fill the vacancy by the appointment of an employee  
812 who served as a deputy or assistant in such office at the time the vacancy occurred as an  
813 acting official to perform all necessary duties to continue normal office operations. The  
814 acting official shall serve until the vacancy is filled by appointment ((~~pursuant to~~)) in  
815 accordance with general law for nonpartisan county elective offices.

816         A vacancy in an elective county office shall be filled at the next primary and  
817 general elections ((~~which~~)) that occur in the county((~~;~~ ~~provided that~~)), but an election to fill  
818 the vacancy shall not be held if the successor to the vacated office will be elected at the

819 next general election as provided in Sections 640 and 645 of this charter. The term of  
820 office of an officer who has been elected to fill a vacancy ~~((shall))~~ is only ~~((be))~~ for the  
821 unexpired portion of the term of the officer whose office has become vacant and ~~((shall))~~  
822 commences as soon as ~~((he or she))~~ the officer who has been elected to fill the vacancy is  
823 elected and qualified.

824 A majority of the county council may temporarily fill a vacancy by appointment  
825 until the vacancy has been filled by election or the successor to the office has been elected  
826 and qualified.

827 **Section 690 Statement of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures.**

828 Every candidate for nomination or election to an elective county office shall, within  
829 ten days after the primary, general or special election as the case may be, file an itemized  
830 statement with the executive department responsible for conducting elections showing all  
831 campaign contributions and pledges of labor and material made to the candidate or on the  
832 candidate's behalf and all campaign expenditures and obligations incurred by the candidate  
833 or on the candidate's behalf. ~~((Such))~~ The statement when filed ~~((shall be))~~ is a public  
834 record. The county council shall by ordinance prescribe the form of such a statement.  
835 Timely filing of a statement of campaign receipts and expenditures with the Washington  
836 State Public Disclosure Commission in accordance with chapter 42.17 RCW satisfies the  
837 filing obligations of this section. A willful violation of this section ~~((shall disqualify))~~  
838 disqualifies the candidate from holding county elective office.

839 **Section 710 Composition, Appointment, Removal.**

840 The board of appeals ~~((shall be))~~ is composed of seven members who are appointed  
841 by the county executive subject to confirmation by a majority of the county council. Each

842 member of the board of appeals shall serve a four-year term and until the member's  
843 successor is appointed. Two members shall be appointed each year; except that every  
844 fourth year, only one member shall be appointed. A majority of the county council, but not  
845 the county executive, may remove a board of appeals member for just cause after written  
846 charges have been served on the board of appeals member and a public hearing has been  
847 held by the county council. The county council shall provide for the compensation of the  
848 board of appeals members on a per diem basis.

849 **Section 720 Powers.**

850 The board of appeals shall hear and decide all appeals from any valuation by the  
851 department of assessments. The county council may by ordinance provide for an appeal to  
852 the board of appeals from any other order by an executive department or administrative  
853 office. The decision of the board of appeals (~~shall be~~) is final unless reviewed by a state  
854 agency as provided by general law or appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction within  
855 the time limits established by ordinance or general law.

856 **Section 730 Rules of Practice and Procedure.**

857 The board of appeals shall prepare, publish and amend rules of practice and  
858 procedure establishing the method for appealing to the board and shall provide for the  
859 selection of those of its members (~~who~~). Its members shall serve with representatives of  
860 cities or other agencies of government on any joint board or commission established by  
861 general law (~~which~~) that hears appeals (~~which~~) that would otherwise be within the  
862 jurisdiction of the board of appeals established by this charter.

863 **Section 800 Charter Review and Amendments.**

864 At least every ten years after the adoption of this charter, the county executive shall  
865 appoint a citizen commission of ~~((not less than))~~ at least fifteen members, whose mandate  
866 ~~((shall be))~~ is to review the charter and present, or cause to be presented, to the county  
867 council a written report recommending those amendments, if any, ~~((which))~~ that should be  
868 made to the charter. Appointees ~~((shall be))~~ are subject to confirmation by a majority of  
869 the county council. This citizen commission shall be composed of at least one  
870 representative from each of the county council districts. The county council shall consider  
871 the commission's report and recommendations and decide at an open public meeting how to  
872 proceed on each of the commission's recommended charter amendments, as provided by  
873 ordinance.

874 The county council may propose amendments to this charter by enacting an  
875 ordinance to submit a proposed amendment to the voters of the county at the next general  
876 election occurring more than forty-five days after the enactment of the ordinance. An  
877 ordinance proposing an amendment to the charter ~~((shall))~~ is not ~~((be))~~ subject to the veto  
878 power of the county executive. Publication of a proposed amendment and notice of its  
879 submission to the voters of the county shall be made in accordance with the state  
880 constitution and general law. If the proposed amendment is approved by a majority of the  
881 voters voting on the issue, it ~~((shall become effective))~~ takes effect ten days after the results  
882 of the election are certified unless a later date is specified in the amendment.

883 **Section 810 Severability and Construction.**

884 The provisions of this charter are severable~~((;))~~, and~~((;))~~ if any provision should be  
885 declared to be unconstitutional or inapplicable, ~~((it shall))~~ the declaration does not affect  
886 the constitutionality or applicability of any other provision of this charter.

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**Section 830 Public Inspection of Public Records.**

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All official acts and documents, except those ~~((which))~~ that have been specifically prepared for use by the county in court proceedings, criminal and law enforcement files, those ~~((which))~~ that would invade a person's right of privacy and those ~~((which))~~ that are specified as confidential by general law, shall be open for public inspection~~((;))~~, and the agency having custody and control of public records shall upon request supply certified copies of the records requested for a reasonable fee as established by ordinance.

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**Section 840 Antidiscrimination.**

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There shall ~~((be no))~~ not be discrimination in employment or compensation of county officers or employees on account of sex, race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or age except by minimum age and retirement provisions, and the county shall not enter into any contract with any person, firm, organization, corporation or other nongovernmental entity that discriminates on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or age except by minimum age and retirement provisions.

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**Section 843 Freedom of religion guarantee.**

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Absolute freedom of conscience in all matters of religious sentiment, belief and worship~~((, shall be))~~ is guaranteed to every individual, and no one shall be molested or disturbed in person or property on account of religion~~((;))~~, but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness or justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the state. ~~((No p))~~ Public money or property shall not be appropriated for or applied to any religious worship, exercise or

910 instruction, or the support of any religious establishment(~~(; provided, however, that)~~), but  
911 this section shall not be so construed as to forbid the employment by the county of a  
912 chaplain for such of the county custodial, correctional(~~(;)~~) and mental institutions, or by a  
913 county public hospital, health care facility(~~(;)~~) or hospice, as (~~(may be)~~) is allowed by  
914 law. (~~(No)~~) A religious qualification shall not be required for any public office or  
915 employment.~~(; nor shall any)~~ A person (~~(be)~~) is not incompetent as a witness or  
916 juror(~~(;)~~) in consequence of the person's opinion on matters of religion(~~(; nor)~~), and a  
917 person shall not be questioned in any court of justice (~~(touching)~~) regarding the person's  
918 religious belief to affect the weight of the person's testimony. This section (~~(shall)~~) does  
919 not diminish or limit any other protections guaranteed by Article I, Section 11 of the  
920 Washington State Constitution or by the first amendment of the United States  
921 Constitution.

922 **Section 850 Delegation of Authority.**

923 Any power or duty of a county officer except the veto power of the county  
924 executive may be delegated by that officer to another officer or employee under the  
925 delegating officer's control and supervision(~~(; provided, however)~~), except that the  
926 delegating officer (~~(shall)~~) continues to be responsible for the exercise of the power or the  
927 performance of the duty delegated. The county council shall not delegate its legislative  
928 power except to the extent that it delegates to a county officer the authority to promulgate  
929 regulations in accordance with adequate standards established by the county council.

930 **Section 860 References to County Agencies and Officers in the Constitution or**  
931 **General Law.**

932 Whenever the state constitution or a general law (~~(which)~~) that has not been  
933 superseded by this charter or by the ordinances enacted (~~(hereunder)~~) under this charter  
934 refers to an agency or officer of county government who has been superseded by this  
935 charter, it shall be deemed to refer to the agency or officer designated by this charter or by  
936 the county council to perform the functions of the superseded agency or officer or in the  
937 absence of such a designation to the agency or officer designated by the county executive.

938 **Section 870 Additional Compensation.**

939 Any county officer or employee who is compensated by salary shall not receive any  
940 additional compensation for serving on any board or commission or in any other position  
941 established by or (~~(pursuant to)~~) in accordance with this charter. An elected officer of the  
942 county shall not be appointed to any other compensated county office or position during the  
943 officer's term of office.

944 **Section 880 Compilation and Codification of Ordinances.**

945 (~~(Within two years after the effective date of this charter and a)~~)As often  
946 (~~(thereafter)~~) as it deems necessary, the county council shall provide for a compilation and  
947 codification of all county ordinances and regulations (~~(which)~~) that have the force of law  
948 and are permanent or general in nature. Each codification shall be presented to the county  
949 council and, when adopted by ordinance, shall be known as the "King County Code." It  
950 shall be published together with this charter, a detailed index and appropriate notes,  
951 citations and annotations. The county council shall also provide for an annual supplement.

952 **Section 890 Employee Representation.**

953 The county council may enact an ordinance providing for collective bargaining by  
954 the county with county employees covered by the personnel system. If an ordinance

955 providing for collective bargaining is enacted, it ~~((shall))~~ is not ~~((be))~~ subject to the veto  
956 power of the county executive~~((;))~~, and, except with respect to bargaining by the county  
957 with employees of the department of public safety ~~((pursuant to))~~ under Section ~~((898))~~ 891  
958 of this charter, it shall designate the county executive as the bargaining agent of the county.  
959 Any agreement reached as a result of negotiations by the county bargaining agent with  
960 county employees ~~((shall))~~ does not have the force of law unless enacted by ordinance.

961 **Section 897 High-Conservation-Value Properties.**

962 The county council may, by a minimum of seven affirmative votes, adopt an  
963 ordinance establishing an inventory of those high-conservation-value properties that are to  
964 be preserved under the terms of this section. ~~((Such an ordinance may be adopted before,~~  
965 ~~on, or after the effective date of this section.))~~ The inventory shall include only properties  
966 in which the county has a real property interest. The inventory may not be modified by the  
967 addition or removal of a property except by an ordinance adopted by a minimum of seven  
968 affirmative votes and including specific findings of fact supporting the modification. An  
969 ordinance removing a property from the inventory shall include findings of fact that one or  
970 more of the following factors exist: (1) the property no longer provides the open space  
971 values initially contemplated, for specific reasons set forth in the ordinance; (2)  
972 maintaining the property in public ownership is no longer practical, for specific reasons set  
973 forth in the ordinance; ~~((or))~~ and (3) open space values will be enhanced by substituting  
974 the property interest for another property interest. At least twenty-eight days after the  
975 introduction of a proposed ordinance modifying the inventory, except an emergency  
976 ordinance, and ~~((prior to))~~ before its adoption, the county council shall hold a public  
977 hearing after due notice to consider the proposed ordinance. Before the county council

978 adopts an ordinance modifying the inventory, the chair or other designee of the county  
979 council shall make a reasonable effort to consult with the county executive about the  
980 modification. Seven affirmative votes are required to override the veto of an ordinance  
981 establishing or modifying the inventory (~~((following the effective date of this section))~~).

982         The county shall not convey or relinquish its interest in an inventoried property or  
983 authorize an inventoried property to be converted to a use that was not permissible when  
984 the county acquired its interest, as evidenced by deed, easement, covenant, contract or  
985 funding source requirements, except that this section (~~((shall))~~) does not prevent: the  
986 conveyance of the county's interest in an inventoried property to another government or to  
987 a (~~((non-profit))~~) nonprofit nature conservancy corporation or association as defined in RCW  
988 84.34.250, as currently adopted or hereafter amended; the conveyance of the county's  
989 interest in an inventoried property under the lawful threat or exercise of eminent domain;  
990 the grant of an easement, license, franchise or use agreement for utilities or other activities  
991 compatible with use restrictions in place when the county acquired its interest; or the use of  
992 an inventoried property for habitat restoration, flood control, low-impact public amenities  
993 or regionally significant public facilities developed for purposes related to the conservation  
994 values of the property, road or utility projects or emergency projects necessary to protect  
995 public health, welfare or safety. This section (~~((shall))~~) does not affect any contractual  
996 obligations entered into as part of the county's acquisition of an interest in an inventoried  
997 property.

998         **Section 898 recodified.** Section 898 of the King County Charter, "Department of  
999 Public Defense Employee Collective Bargaining," as proposed to be amended by this  
1000 ordinance, is hereby recodified as Section 892 of the King County Charter.

1001           **Section 898 Department of Public Safety Employee Collective Bargaining.**

1002           The county council may enact an ordinance providing for collective bargaining by  
1003 the county with employees of the department of public safety. The county executive  
1004 ~~((shall))~~ does not have veto power over ~~((this))~~ the ordinance. If ~~((such an))~~ the ordinance  
1005 is enacted, it shall designate the county sheriff as the bargaining agent of the county on all  
1006 department of public safety matters except for compensation and benefits, which shall be  
1007 negotiated by the county executive as provided in Section 890 of this charter, and civilian  
1008 oversight of law enforcement, which shall be negotiated by the county executive in  
1009 consultation with the county sheriff. Any agreement reached as a result of negotiations by  
1010 the county sheriff or the county executive with employees of the department of public  
1011 safety ~~((shall))~~ does not have the force of law unless enacted by ordinance.

1012           **Section 899 recodified.** Section 899 of the King County Charter, "Department of  
1013 Public Defense Employee Collective Bargaining," as proposed to be amended by this  
1014 ordinance, is hereby recodified as Section 893 of the King County Charter.

1015           **Section 899(=) Department of Public Defense Employee Collective**  
1016 **Bargaining.**

1017           The county executive shall consult with the county public defender on the plans and  
1018 goals for bargaining before and ~~((periodically))~~ during the negotiation of terms and  
1019 conditions of employment with employees of the department of public defense. The  
1020 county council may prescribe the method of consultation by ordinance.

1021           SECTION 2. The clerk of the council shall certify the proposition to the manager  
1022 of the elections division, in substantially the following form, with such additions,  
1023 deletions or modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney:

1024 Shall the King County Charter be amended to correct typographical and  
1025 grammatical errors, apply consistent drafting protocols, enhance  
1026 readability and organization and remove no longer relevant language?