



Snohomish County

County Council

Brian Sullivan

January 21, 2014

Representative Hans Dunshee
314 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

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Dear Rep. Dunshee,

The **Phase II Building Completion Project** proposed for the **Dawson Place Child Advocacy Center** is an important opportunity to complete necessary renovations and to create a solid foundation for the long-term financial stability of this crucial resource. Dawson Place is the only organization in Snohomish County which coordinates all the care and services for sexual and physical child abuse victims and their families under a single roof.

Before Dawson Place, services were divided among various government and private agencies, which required victims to travel to each new destination and retell their horrific experiences at each stop. It was difficult for agencies to effectively share information and coordinate child abuse cases, which lead to inconsistent treatment and complicated law enforcement efforts. Children and families sometimes gave up on getting the help they needed and deserved.

Dawson Place served more than 1,100 abuse victims and their families in 2013, and more than 6,400 since their doors opened in 2007. The need for these services has doubled in the past two years and will continue to grow. Child advocacy centers like Dawson Place help break the cycle of child abuse and ultimately make our community safer.

Even in this challenging fiscal climate, I believe it is crucial that we find a way to help Dawson Place to continue offering a safe and healing environment so important to abused children, developmentally challenged adults, and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Sullivan
Council Vice-Chair

Wilson, Cecilia

From: Briahna Taylor [btaylor@gth-gov.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 09, 2014 12:53 PM
To: Durham, Alessandra; Sullivan, Brian; Haines, Cassie; Wilson, Cecilia; Somers, Dave; Parks, Eric; Klein, Ken; Isenberg, Marcia; Pruitt, Pam; Wright, Stephanie; Ryan, Terry; Travis Lumpkin; Alex Soldano; Terwilliger, Bob; Goodnight, Brian; Haseleu, Brian; Parry, Brian; Clawson, Bridget; Weikel, Carolyn; Portmann, Cindy; White, Clay; Pruitt, Cynthia; Waggoner, Dave; Andrews, Gage; Haakenson, Gary; Miller, Jeffrey; Koster, John; Lovick, John; Pennington, John; Thompson, Joshua; Stark, Ken; Sievers, Kirke; Outlaw, LaTanja; Mackie, Leigh; Carl, Linda; King, Margaret; Ericks, Mark; Roe, Mark; Thunberg, Mark; Downes, Michael; Thiersch, Norman; Lyon, Patricia; Camp, Peter; Freemantle, Sharie; Kraski, Sonya; Thomsen, Steven; Teigen, Tom; Hall, Will
Cc: Alex Soldano
Subject: Snohomish County Legislative Report
Attachments: Fifth Week of Session SnoCo Legislative Report.docx; 2.10.14 Snohomish County Weekly Schedule.docx; DawsonPlace2014Request.pdf; RoeHouse Support Letter 2 13 13.pdf; LovickSupportLetter2014.pdf; 2014_BS_support letter_Dawson Place.pdf

Legislative Update

Snohomish County

From: Briahna Taylor, Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs

Date: February 9, 2014

Policy committee cutoff has passed! Any bills that are not budget related and have not been voted out of committee will no longer be considered this session. This coming week will mark the beginning of all-day floor action in Olympia, and all budget bills must pass their fiscal committees by this Tuesday, February 11th.

County Priority: Legislation to Align County Budget Amendments with Accounting Period

Senate Bill 6026, sponsored by Sen. Pam Roach (R- Auburn) and House Bill 2301, sponsored by Rep. June Robinson (D-Everett) would align county budget amendments with the accounting period. Last week, SB 6026 and HB 2301 were both passed out of committee. On Friday, the House Rules Committee voted to send HB 2301 to the floor of the House Floor for a vote. We will continue to work with the Senate to bring SB 6026 to the floor of the Senate for a vote as well.

County Priority: Legislation Allowing Counties to Require Electronic Payroll

House Bill 2442, sponsored by Rep. Luis Moscoso (D-Mountlake Terrace), and SB 6401 by Sen. Marko Liias (D-Edmonds) would allow counties to require electronic payroll. SB 6401 was heard in the Senate Government Operations Committee. Sen. Bob Hasegawa, (D-Seattle) and ranking member on the committee, raised concerns about the overall use of payroll cards and a desire to address that broader issue prior granting more entities the authority to use payroll cards. He indicated that he would offer an amendment to the bill that would allow individuals to use the payroll card as a defacto savings/debit account (endless withdrawals w/ no fees). Given this amendment, the banks testified in support of the underlying bill, but expressed concerns with the amendment. Given this indication, the Chair of the committee did not bring it up for a vote and encouraged the County to work to get all stakeholders in agreement. As a result, the Senate version of the legislation is now dead.

HB 2442 was voted out of the House Local Government Committee on a bipartisan 7-2 vote. HB 2442 is now in House Rules, and GTHGA will work with legislators to request that it be sent to the floor of the House for a full vote. However, in order to be successful in passing the legislation this session, we are going to need to address the concerns raised in the Senate. The concerns stem from a broader use of payroll cards. GTHGA has

developed the following language as a starting place for beginning conversations with legislators w/ concerns, the banks, and the labor council. I am open to feedback on this language, and have shared it with the Finance Department:

(5) Counties, in disbursing funds for payment of salaries and wages of employees in accordance with subsection (1) of this section, may elect to require employees to select between the direct deposit method described in (2)(a) or through payroll cards. Within 30 days of the county electing this option, the county shall distribute educational information to employees about direct deposits or payroll cards.

(a) For those employees receiving a payroll card under (2)(b), the County shall:

- Not charge employees an initiation, loading, or other participation fee to receive wages, including any costs required to replace a lost payroll card.
- Disclose to each employee any fees associated with the use of a payroll card account. Disclosures shall be clear and readily understandable and in a form the employee may keep either electronically or in writing.
- Provide each employee with a written or electronic statement of his or her earnings and withholdings.
- Allow employees at least one means of fund access withdrawal per pay period at no cost to the employee for an amount up to and including the total amount of the employee's net wages, as stated on the employee's earnings statement.
- The employee shall be allowed to make unlimited number of balance inquiries, without charge.

(b) Use of the disbursement methods authorized by this subsection (5) must be approved, by ordinance, by the county legislative authority.

New Section: A county with a population over 600,000 who elects to use the option outlined in Section (5) shall issue a report to the Legislature within 365 days of the county legislative authority passing the ordinance in (5)(b). The report shall provide:

- 1) A description of the educational information provided to employees.
- 2) The number of employees who selected to use the payroll card option.
- 3) Any complaints the county received from employees using the payroll card option.
- 4) Additional information that the County is able to provide on the program.

This section expires on January 1, 2017.

County Priority: Use of Alternative Facilities for Those Who Exhibit Signs of Substance Abuse

Substitute Senate Bill 6345, sponsored by Sen. John McCoy (D-Everett), and Substitute House Bill 2627, sponsored by Rep. Mary Helen Roberts (D-Lynnwood) were both heard last week in their respective committees, and are in the Rules Committees of their respective chambers.

In the Senate, an amendment was attached to the bill that would create a pilot program for Snohomish County to authorize the use of alternative facilities. The County will have to issue two reports (every other year), and then seek reauthorization of the pilot program after four years. The bill also says that a police officer must issue a report on the arrest within 10 days (WASPC has unofficially indicated this should not present concerns for law enforcement).

In the House, the bill was heard in both the policy committee, and the fiscal committee. The bill was amended to clarify that any costs incurred by treating individuals that are diverted is paid for by the County. The bill passed both committees unanimously in its amended form.

Discussion: Preferences between the two versions? Are we okay with the Senate approach, or should we push to have it match the House version (note, that in doing that push, it is possible that the bill may not pass out of the Senate). Direction?

Dawson's Place Funding Request

Attached to this report is information on a capital funding request that the Prosecutor's Office has been working on. The County Executive has indicated support for securing the funding. Direction: Does Council also support the request, and is there a desire to have GTHGA lobby the issue?

Granite Falls Road: Budget Proviso

Last week, Rep. Dave Hayes met with WSDOT Secretary Lynn Peterson to discuss the status on the agreement regarding the Granite Falls roadway. Secretary Peterson indicated an agreement would be reached within the week. The Public Works Department indicated that an agreement may be reached this week. WSDOT did raise with Rep. Hayes that Snohomish County needs to complete certain notification requirements as well. The Public Works Department indicated those notifications would be taking place in the coming weeks.

Impact Fee Deferral

WSAC officially took a neutral position on this legislation. Last year, a bill of this nature passed both the House and Senate but we were able to secure a Governor's veto of this legislation. This year, HB 2677, sponsored by Rep. Larry Springer (D- Kirkland) is back. This bill would mandate cities to develop a permanent process for the payment of impact fees through stipulations in recorded covenants.

The current language of the bill states that cities who collect impact fees for development must allow deferral for at least 30 permits per developer per year. Cities have raised concerns about the impact that this could have on their jurisdiction as well as possible additional costs to homebuyers. Our group has been able to work with Representative Springer to develop language that we hope will lessen impact to cities. Although the new language is not final, the most recent proposal is to lower the number of deferrals from 30 to 20 and to limit this regulation to single family homes only.

In addition to HB 2677, SB 6461, introduced by Sen. Brian Dinsel (R- Republic) and HB 2498 introduced in the House by Rep. Cathy Dahlquist (R- Enumclaw) were both introduced, but neither made it past policy cutoff.

Marijuana, Liquor, and Public Works Assistant Account

Cities are facing resistance in Olympia on each of AWC's top priority issues: marijuana, liquor, and restoring funds to the Public Works Assistance Account.

Sharing Marijuana Revenue: Hearings were held on Marijuana-related bills throughout last week. Most of the response to the local revenue sharing aspect has been positive. However, the most popular revenue sharing bill, HB 2144- introduced by Rep. Cary Condotta (R- East Wenatchee), has been amended. This amendment includes language that would preempt local jurisdictions from banning or zoning marijuana-related businesses to effectively prohibit them from establishing in that jurisdiction. This amendment is seen by many cities and counties across the state as a threat to local decision making.

Restoring Liquor Revenue: House Bill 2314, introduced by Rep. Steve Tharinger (D- Dungeness) and SB 6361 by Sen. Jan Angel (R-Port Orchard) have still not been scheduled for public hearing. These bills are not officially dead, but without a public hearing scheduled and the February 11th cutoff looming the chances of this bill surviving cutoff are waning. Once again, GTHGA has heard that the reason for this delay is concern from the

budget writers in both the House and Senate that reinstating the revenue sharing will make balancing the budget harder.

Restoring the Public Works Assistance Account: House Bill 2244, sponsored by Rep. Derek Stanford (D-Bothell) would undo the redirection of REET and utility taxes revenues to the state operating budget and direct it back to the Capital Budget for the Public Works Trust Fund. This bill was voted out of the Capital Budget Committee in the House this last week and passed unanimously. It is now in the House Appropriations Committee and has not yet been scheduled for a vote.

Bills Scheduled for Hearing Next Week: Please refer to the attached schedule.

Bills & Bill Tracking

At this stage of session, bills are moving from one stage of the legislative process to another very rapidly. To keep up to date, we suggest that you periodically monitor the bill tracking list. To access the County's bill tracking, simply click on this link. If you have any questions about the bill tracking, please email me: btaylor@gth-gov.com.

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