

1 Sponsored by: Councilmembers Douglas G. Richardson, Derek Young, and Pam Roach
2 Requested by: Pierce County Council
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7 **RESOLUTION NO. R2018-140s**
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11 **A Resolution of the Pierce County Council Adopting the Pierce County**
12 **Washington State Legislative Priorities for 2019.**
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14 **Whereas**, in order for Pierce County to be effective, efficient, and successful at
15 influencing legislation before the Washington State Legislature, it is essential that the
16 County clearly articulate its priorities; and
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18 **Whereas**, establishing Pierce County’s Washington State Legislative Priorities
19 also ensures that the Pierce County Council (Council), Pierce County Executive, and
20 Pierce County governmental relations staff and contractors are coordinated and
21 consistent when communicating with State legislators; and
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23 **Whereas**, as the policy setting body for Pierce County, it is the role of the
24 Council to establish these priorities for Pierce County government and the Council
25 desires to do so; and
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27 **Whereas**, while the Council wishes to establish a clear set of legislative priorities,
28 it also recognizes that issues and legislation may emerge during the legislative session
29 which require or need a Pierce County response and the establishment of these
30 priorities is not intended to limit that response; **Now Therefore**,

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32 **BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Pierce County:**
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34 Section 1. The Pierce County Washington State Legislative Priorities for 2019
35 are hereby adopted as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated
36 herein by reference. These priorities represent Pierce County legislative focus areas for
37 the 2019 Washington State legislative session.
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1 Section 2. The Council recognizes that unanticipated issues and legislation may
2 emerge during the legislative session which require or need a Pierce County response.
3 The Council intends that Pierce County be flexible and adaptive as needed to address
4 such unanticipated issues and legislation. The Council expects that the Pierce County
5 Executive and Pierce County's government relations staff and contractors will notify the
6 Council of these issues and legislation as they emerge and seek guidance from the
7 Council regarding Pierce County's response as needed.

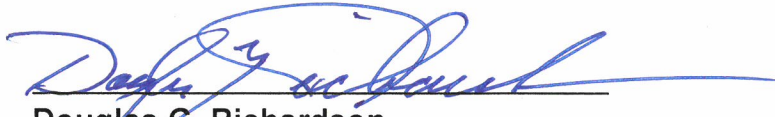
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9 Section 3. The Council requests that the Pierce County Executive and Pierce
10 County's government relations staff and contractors take all appropriate action to
11 support the priorities set forth in Exhibit A and report regularly on the status of relevant
12 bills, committee hearings, and interactions with legislators regarding these priorities.
13 The Council also requests that the Pierce County Executive and Pierce County's
14 government relations staff and contractors include information on unanticipated issues
15 and legislation for which a Pierce County response is needed or has been provided as
16 set forth in Section 2 above.

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18 **ADOPTED** this 6th day of November, 2018.

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20 ATTEST:

PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL
Pierce County, Washington

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25 **Denise D. Johnson**
26 Clerk of the Council


25 **Douglas G. Richardson**
26 Council Chair



Pierce County State Legislative Priorities

1. Public Safety

- a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to improve public safety by supporting:
 - i. Measures that reduce the number and severity of sex offenders released into Pierce County.
 - ii. Prohibition of the placement of sexually violent offenders into adult family homes.
 - iii. Funding for Washington Task Force One (WA-TF1) mission readiness, including funding for swift-water rescue boats and training.
 - iv. Early intervention and local services for juvenile offenders.
 - v. Increased state funding for criminal justice services, including indigent defense.

2. Community and Behavioral Health

- a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to improve community and behavioral health services by supporting:
 - i. Equitable access to behavioral health services so that those suffering from mental health issues can stay in, and/or return to, their communities of origin.
 - 1. Pierce County supports “fair share” community placement of those released from Western State Hospital.
 - a. Financing of appropriate facilities and care for these individuals, which includes the continued use of secure facilities for those with a violent history.
 - ii. Legislation to address the opioid crisis, including dependency representation and foster care support for impacted children.
 - iii. Funding for foundational public health services to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and improve environmental health.
 - iv. Legislation establishing local notice in the siting of adult family homes.
 - v. Funding to improve access to crisis information and referrals offered through services such as Washington 2-1-1.
 - vi. Legislation renewing and amending the provisions of RCW 10.77.073. (Competency Evaluation).

3. Housing Attainment

- a. Pierce County supports improved access to housing by supporting:
 - i. Condominium liability reform
 - ii. State sales tax credits for homeless housing and local housing programs.
 - iii. Property tax relief for disabled veterans and lower-income seniors.



1 **4. Economic Development**

- 2 a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to promote local economic
3 development by supporting:
4 i. Tax incentives for redevelopment of urban unincorporated areas in
5 high-capacity transit corridors.
6 ii. Tax incentives for Class A commercial office space construction or
7 rehabilitation.
8 iii. Military Benefit Zones, which expand financing tools for military
9 communities.
10 iv. Initiatives to improve workforce development and skills.
11 v. Investments in parks and tourism, including a leasehold tax exemption
12 for the Tacoma Dome.
13 vi. Expanding degree programs at the University of Washington –
14 Tacoma, particularly in engineering and IT-related fields.
15 vii. Continued progress toward establishing a law program at the
16 University of Washington – Tacoma.
17 viii. Efforts of local businesses to establish or expand technology
18 enterprises such as cybersecurity and data storage and collection.
19 ix. Tax and fee relief measures.
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21 **5. Infrastructure**

- 22 a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to improve mobility and
23 infrastructure in the region by supporting:
24 i. Canyon Road funding.
25 ii. Narrows Bridge Toll relief.
26 iii. Puget Sound Gateway (SR-167/509) project acceleration.
27 iv. Spiketon Creek Bridge (SR-162) replacement acceleration and the
28 establishment of a state bridge repair and replacement program.
29 v. Continued work on East-West transportation options for southeastern
30 Pierce County and improvements to SR-162, SR-302, and I-5.
31 vi. Grants and subsidies to expand the availability of broadband internet
32 in rural areas of Pierce County.
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34 **6. Fiscal Stewardship**

- 35 a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to improve fiscal stewardship by
36 supporting:
37 i. Increases to state shared revenues.
38 ii. Modernizing public procurement statutes.
39 iii. State funding for its fair share of election costs.
40 iv. No additional unfunded state mandates.
41 v. Reform of the Shoreline Management Act.
42 1. Shoreline policy areas preempted by the State should be
43 clearly identified and solely managed by state agencies.
44 2. Ensure that statewide efforts to promote and enhance shellfish
45 aquaculture respects local communities and local authority.
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7. Capital Budget

- a. Pierce County supports legislative efforts to enact a capital budget that includes funding for:
 - i. Floodplains by Design.
 - ii. Fish passage improvements (culvert replacements).
 - iii. Frontier Park Arena (roof).
 - iv. Puyallup River boat ramp.
 - v. DuPont-Steilacoom Rd widening project.
 - vi. Asia Pacific Cultural Center.
 - vii. Drinking water system repair.

