



Position

STRONG SUPPORT- treating sewer & water utility providers equally for performed in-house work benefits all Washingtonians.

Talking Points

1. The threshold for districts to perform in-house work is lower than most other governmental jurisdictions at only \$50,000.
2. Such a low threshold severely limits how much work districts can do in-house as the cost of materials and labor rises, especially during these high inflationary times.
3. Having Sewer & Water Districts, Cities, and PUDs, on a level playing field for in-house work makes it equitable for all utility customers.
4. The ability to do more work in-house translates into more affordable utility rates for customers.
5. In-house work increases reliability for the customer as emergency work can be done more efficiently and effectively.

Bill Impacts

1. Raises in-house work threshold to \$150,000 for multiple craft/trade, and \$75,000 for single craft/trade- aligning with existing language for first-class cities.
2. Allows for districts to accept second lower bidder if the lowest bidder has delivered a project to the district within the last three years which was late, over budget, or did not meet specifications- aligning with existing language from second-class cities.
3. Allows for districts to perform work with regularly employed personnel utilizing material of a worth not exceeding \$300,000 in value without a contract. This limit on the value of material being utilized in work being performed by regularly employed personnel shall not include the value of individual items of equipment- aligning with existing language from Public Utility Districts.