
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5670

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Senate Local Government (originally sponsored by Senators Wagoner, Palumbo, Holy, Hobbs, and Honeyford)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the allowable powers of fire
2 protection districts; amending RCW 52.12.031; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 28A.160 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 52.12.031 and 2010 c 8 s 15002 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Any fire protection district organized under this title may:

8 (1) Lease, acquire, own, maintain, operate, and provide fire and
9 emergency medical apparatus and all other necessary or proper
10 facilities, machinery, and equipment for the prevention and
11 suppression of fires, the providing of emergency medical services and
12 the protection of life and property;

13 (2) Enter into an interlocal agreement with any local
14 jurisdiction to maintain and repair any vehicle or equipment owned
15 and used exclusively by such county, city, town, school district, or
16 other political subdivision of the state of Washington. As used in
17 this subsection, "local jurisdiction" means any county, city, town,
18 school district, or other political subdivision of the state of
19 Washington;

20 (3) Lease, acquire, own, maintain, and operate real property,
21 improvements, and fixtures for housing, repairing, and maintaining

1 the apparatus, facilities, machinery, and equipment described in
2 subsection (1) of this section;

3 ~~((3))~~ (4) Contract with any governmental entity under chapter
4 39.34 RCW or private person or entity to consolidate, provide, or
5 cooperate for fire prevention protection, fire suppression,
6 investigation, and emergency medical purposes. In so contracting, the
7 district or governmental entity is deemed for all purposes to be
8 acting within its governmental capacity. This contracting authority
9 includes the furnishing of fire prevention, fire suppression,
10 investigation, emergency medical services, facilities, and equipment
11 to or by the district, governmental entity, or private person or
12 entity;

13 ~~((4))~~ (5) Encourage uniformity and coordination of fire
14 protection district operations. The fire commissioners of fire
15 protection districts may form an association to secure information of
16 value in suppressing and preventing fires and other district
17 purposes, to hold and attend meetings, and to promote more economical
18 and efficient operation of the associated fire protection districts.
19 The commissioners of fire protection districts in the association
20 shall adopt articles of association or articles of incorporation for
21 a nonprofit corporation, select a chair, secretary, and other
22 officers as they may determine, and may employ and discharge agents
23 and employees as the officers deem convenient to carry out the
24 purposes of the association. The expenses of the association may be
25 paid from funds paid into the association by fire protection
26 districts: PROVIDED, That the aggregate contributions made to the
27 association by a district in a calendar year shall not exceed two and
28 one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation;

29 ~~((5))~~ (6) Enter into contracts to provide group life insurance
30 for the benefit of the personnel of the fire districts;

31 ~~((6))~~ (7) Perform building and property inspections that the
32 district deems necessary to provide fire prevention services and pre-
33 fire planning within the district and any area that the district
34 serves by contract in accordance with RCW 19.27.110: PROVIDED, That
35 codes used by the district for building and property inspections
36 shall be limited to the applicable codes adopted by the state,
37 county, city, or town that has jurisdiction over the area in which
38 the property is located. A copy of inspection reports prepared by the
39 district shall be furnished by the district to the appropriate state,
40 county, city, or town that has jurisdiction over the area in which

1 the property is located: PROVIDED, That nothing in this subsection
2 shall be construed to grant code enforcement authority to a district.
3 This subsection shall not be construed as imposing liability on any
4 governmental jurisdiction;

5 ~~((7))~~ (8) Determine the origin and cause of fires occurring
6 within the district and any area the district serves by contract. In
7 exercising the authority conferred by this subsection, the fire
8 protection district and its authorized representatives shall comply
9 with the provisions of RCW 43.44.050;

10 ~~((8))~~ (9) Perform acts consistent with this title and not
11 otherwise prohibited by law.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.160
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 The maintenance and repair of school buses may be provided by a
15 fire protection district pursuant to RCW 52.12.031(1).

--- END ---