



Snohomish County Council

NEWS RELEASE

For Release:, August 2, 2006
Contact: Councilmember (425) 388-3494

Express Your Opinion on Changes to the County Charter

The Snohomish County Council will appoint committees to write the voters' pamphlet statements in support and opposition to the six proposed charter amendments on the November ballot. The council is seeking applications from individuals who want to write the statements.

The Charter Review Commission recommended six changes to the county charter. The changes deal with modifications to create an independent salary commission, allow for biennial budgets, increase the veto authority of the executive, add to the council's rules of procedure, change certain election provisions, and move the performance auditor to the legislative branch.

State law allows the county council to appoint committees of up to three individuals to write the pro/con statements in the local voters' pamphlet. The council is asking individuals to send a letter of interest with their name, full address, and a contact telephone number or e-mail address. The letter of interest should state your qualifications for writing the voters pamphlet statement but does not require your argument either in favor or against. The information should be sent to:

Clerk of the Council
Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave. MS 609
Everett, WA, 98201
e-mail county.council@co.snohomish.wa.us

The council will take action to appoint the committees at its general legislative session at 9:00 a.m. on September 6th. The council requests that applicants provide their information by August 31, 2006 but will continue to consider applicants through the public comment period of the September 6th meeting.

Statements in the pamphlet are limited in length and the content is governed by state law and the adopted rules of the Snohomish County Auditor. After appointment to the committee, the 250-word statement must be provided to the Auditor on September 22nd. The measures will be on the November 7, 2006 general election.

The full text of the proposed charter amendments can be found on the county web site, www.co.snohomish.wa.us and following the links to the Charter Review Commission and ballot measures.

- END -