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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1069**

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**State of Washington**

**61st Legislature**

**2009 Regular Session**

**By** House Local Government & Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunt, Kagi, Nelson, Van De Wege, Hasegawa, Williams, Dunshee, McCoy, Appleton, Lias, Takko, Simpson, Darneille, Rolfes, Dickerson, Kenney, White, and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 02/10/09.

1           AN ACT Relating to light pollution; and creating new sections.

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

3           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.**   The increased use of ineffective and  
4 inefficient exterior lighting in Washington has generated unnecessary  
5 light pollution and wasteful energy consumption. With the application  
6 of the best available science, engineering knowledge, and technology  
7 available, Washington will be able to reduce sky glow, create  
8 substantial reductions in energy consumption, and protect the nighttime  
9 environment.

10           Light pollution may be greatly reduced by using properly designed  
11 light fixtures that direct light downward, are properly installed, and  
12 avoid glare and light trespass. These fixtures are called fully  
13 shielded luminaires. With improved optical control and reflector  
14 design, modern fully shielded luminaires deliver the same amount of  
15 light to the ground as older wasteful designs, but use less power, thus  
16 reducing the amount of energy used. This saves money and reduces the  
17 quantity of greenhouse gases released into the environment.

18           Therefore, in response to these recognized benefits and

1 circumstances, it is the intent of the legislature to require the state  
2 building code council to convene a technical advisory group to examine  
3 issues and barriers pertaining to these lighting issues.

4 The legislature further intends the building code council to  
5 develop recommendations for reducing light pollution and to report the  
6 findings of the advisory group. The legislature does not intend to  
7 establish an actual or implied mandate, nor does the legislature intend  
8 to diminish or otherwise affect the regulatory authority of local  
9 governments.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The director of the state building code  
11 council shall:

12 (1) Work with interested parties to develop recommendations for a  
13 draft code to address light pollution from luminaires; and

14 (2) Report these recommendations to the appropriate committees of  
15 the house of representatives and the senate by November 25, 2009.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The recommendations developed under section  
17 2 of this act do not apply to:

18 (1) Temporary lighting required for construction projects and  
19 related to road construction and repair, installation of sewer and  
20 water facilities, and other public infrastructure;

21 (2) Temporary emergency lighting used by police, fire departments,  
22 or other emergency services;

23 (3) Hazard warning luminaires required by federal law and federal  
24 regulatory agencies;

25 (4) Seasonal and decorative lighting displays that use multiple low  
26 wattage bulbs;

27 (5) Navigation lights used for marine and aviation safety; or

28 (6) Historical buildings that meet the requirements of RCW  
29 19.27.120.

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