

March 7, 2018

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

The Honorable Bob Ferguson  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 40100  
Olympia, WA 98404-0100

The Honorable Sharon Nelson  
Washington State Senate

The Honorable Frank Chopp  
Washington State House of Representatives

The Honorable Mark Schoesler  
Washington State Senate

The Honorable Dan Kristiansen  
Washington State House of Representatives

***Re: Public Records Act task force***

Dear Governor Inslee, Attorney General Ferguson, and Legislative Leadership:

On behalf of Washington's 281 cities and towns, I am writing to ask that the Public Records Act (PRA) task force you are creating include city representatives.

Open government issues have been included in the legislative priorities of the Association of Washington Cities for most of the last 10 years. We also appreciated the involvement of legislative members and your staff in our stakeholder processes over the last several years to find sensible solutions to modernizing the more than 40 year-old PRA and which led to passage of two major reform bills, ESHB 1594 and EHB 1595, in the 2017 session.

As you begin this task force focused on legislative records, we would ask that you consider the points where your considerations overlap with those of local governments. We also believe the expertise of city officials who govern under the PRA would provide valuable perspectives to your discussions.

We stand ready to assist this process in any way we can and look forward to continuing discussions about the appropriate balance of open government and other essential operations of government, for all levels of government in our state.

Sincerely,



Peter King  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Senator Andy Billig  
Representative Pat Sullivan  
Senator Randy Becker  
Representative Joel Kretz  
Drew Shirk