



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
City Manager's Office  
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001  
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** Erin Leonhart, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

**Date:** September 21, 2010

**Subject:** INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 1053 – CONCERNS TAX AND FEE INCREASES  
IMPOSED BY STATE GOVERNMENT

### Recommendation

It is recommended that City Council hold a public hearing and consider a Resolution opposing Initiative 1053.

### Background

Initiative Measure No. 1053 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by Washington State government is a state-wide ballot measure that will be on the November 2010 ballot. Initiative No. 1053 would restate existing statutory requirements that legislative actions raising taxes must be approved by two-thirds majorities of both the State House of Representatives and the State Senate or receive voter approval. The Initiative would also require majority approval from both houses of the legislature to impose or increase any fee.

Voters approved a two-thirds requirement in 2007, which was repealed by the legislature during the 2010 session.

Under RCW 42.17.130, the Council may vote on a resolution to support or oppose a ballot proposition "so long as (a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the legislative body or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of any opposing view; . . ."

The City Clerk published notice of the public hearing and included the ballot title and initiative number in the notice.

Attachment

RESOLUTION R-4839

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND STATING THE CITY COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO INITIATIVE 1053 ON THE NOVEMBER 2, 2010, GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT.

WHEREAS, Initiative 1053 (I-1053) will be presented to the voters of the State of Washington at the general election on November 2, 2010; and

WHEREAS, I-1053 would require that any action or combination of actions by the legislature that raises taxes be taken only if approved by at least two-thirds legislative approval in both the house of representatives and the senate; and

WHEREAS, I-1053 would further require that a fee only be imposed or increased in any fiscal year if approved with majority legislative approval in both the house of representatives and the senate; and

WHEREAS, I-1053's requirement of a "supermajority" vote for any new tax, would empower one-third of the members of either the house or senate to block any bill to raise revenues for needed programs; and

WHEREAS, government must have the resources and power to make decisions that meet citizens needs and reconcile conflicting interests and priorities, and it must be able to function in an efficient manner with a minimum of conflict, wasted time, and duplication of effort; and

WHEREAS, as provided in RCW 42.17.130, the City Council of the City of Kirkland desires to show its opposition to I-933;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The City Council opposes Initiative 1053.

Section 2. The City Council urges Kirkland voters to vote no on Initiative 1053 on November 2, 2010.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

Signed in authentication thereof this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk