

1 AN ACT relating to prohibiting political subdivisions from withholding  
2 essential services, such as law enforcement; providing damages for  
3 failure to do so; and adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW and  
4 chapter 36.01.

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

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8 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that government exists,  
9 in part, to secure rights and equal justice for all citizens, while at  
10 the same time to maintain social order. Statutory and common law vests  
11 in the state the police powers essential to the preservation of social  
12 order, which it has delegated to local governments. For example, in  
13 *Chicago v. Starnes*, 221 U.S. 313 (1911), the U.S. Supreme Court held  
14 that liability may exist when a local government fails to protect  
15 property destroyed by unpeaceful protests, riots, or mob violence. The  
16 legislature intends to hold local governments responsible when they  
17 willfully fail to discharge their delegated power to maintain social  
18 order.

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