Resolution: Opposition to Diverting Youth Athletic Facility Funds for Minor League Baseball Stadiums

Whereas the youth athletic facility account was created by a vote of the people in 1997 as part of Referendum 48 to be used for “purposes of grants to cities, counties, and qualified non-profit organizations for youth athletic facilities… for acquiring, developing, maintaining, and improving youth or community athletic facilities;" and

Whereas the legislature adopted a capitol budget on April 23, 2023 diverting $24,000,000 from the youth athletic facility account to 11 minor league baseball stadiums; and

Whereas many cities and school districts across the state, including the cities of Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Seattle, and Shoreline have youth athletic facilities that are in need of additional maintenance or facilities to needed be constructed to maintain current programs, such as pools for competitive swimming and dive teams;

Therefore be it resolved that the 32nd District Democrats stand opposed to the action to divert money from the youth athletic facilities account to professional sports facilities {and urge Governor Jay Inslee to veto section 1038 from SB 5200);

And therefore be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Jay Inslee, Senate Majority Leader Andy Billig, Speaker Laurie Jenkins, Senator Jesse Salomon, and Representative Cindy Ryu and Lauren Davis.

Submitted by Heather Fralick, Member

Adopted on May 3, 2023