KING LYSEN

THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 66173
SEATTLE 98166
RES. TEL.: 244-6611
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House of Representatives

STATE OF WASHINGTON

March 30, 1973

Dear Concerned Citizen:

I am writing to you in regard to the reform legislation for the Port of Seattle that I have introduced this session, House Bill 519. Enclosed with this letter are some editorials and articles that have appeared on this measure; as you can see, this bill passed the House of Representatives overwhelmingly with a vote of 74-20, 4 members not voting. This was a great victory for those of us who feel the Port of Seattle has been unresponsive to many communities in King County, while at the same time creating more tax increases for the residents of King County. The State Auditor's latest report has shown that the Port of Seattle has taxed beyond its legal authority.

This measure, House Bill 519, is presently in the Senate Constitutions and Elections Committee. There will be a hearing on Saturday March 31st, at 8:30 AM in the Public Lands Building, Room #432. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated; a letter to your Senator and/or your presence at the hearing would surely help support the final passage of this measure.

I might also add that the Port Commission has finally consented to discuss with me this all important legislation. After many deliberations, Mr. Frank R. Kitchell, currently a Port Commissioner, will appear with me on Channel 7, Sunday, April 1st at 11 o'clock AM.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

King Lysen

State Representative

31st District

KL:ml Enclosure FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES
STATE GOVERNMENT

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE 1973-75

COMMITTEES

CHAIRMAN: CONSTITUTION AND ELECTIONS WAYS AND MEANS





Washington State Senate

April 3, 1973

Ms. Virginia E. Dana 2648 South 142nd Seattle, WA 98168

Dear Ms. Dana:

Thank you for your letter of March 31st in which you urge passage of House Bill 519 requiring port commissioners to run in legislative districts in King County.

As you know by now, our committee held a public hearing on this issue last week at which time testimony was presented by both sides. There was not enough votes at that time to move this bill out of committee. However, we will be scheduling HB 519 for a future committee meeting and, hopefully, the committee will see fit to pass this bill out for consideration by the full body.

I can certainly understand the concern of the residents in the Highline area with this particular measure and I, too, believe that you are deserving of adequate representation by the Port Commission. Please be assured that, as Chairman of the Constitution and Elections Committee, I will do all that I can to seek passage of this bill.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your views with me on this vitally important issue.

State Senator

11th District

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House of Representatives

STATE OF WASHINGTON OLYMPIA

February 19, 1973

Dear Vinginia

The Port of Seattle has approximately two billion dollars worth of property in King County, and is growing rapidly, all of which is off the tax rolls. Beyond this, in 1971 the Port received 11½ million dollars in property taxes from the home owners in King County. The Port has a larger budget than the City of Seattle, yet is less responsive in numerous ways. I have introduced a bill, House Bill 519, in the 1973 session of the Washington State Legislature that will affect the Port Commission and its relationship to our communities. With the passage of HB 519, I hope to change the Port Commission so that its members are more responsive to our citizens.

Currently, as you may know, the Port Commission is made up of five members who run for office county-wide. This has resulted in campaigns that cost in excess of forty thousand dollars. Thus, in the past, only wealthy individuals with a lot of free time have been allowed to run and win. House Bill 519 would expand the Port Commission from five to nine members and would have each commissioner run in the existing county council districts. A county council district in King County would be about as large as two legislative districts, so as you can see, it would still be a large area in terms of 135,000 constituents.

I feel strongly that our area, which has been severely impacted by the growth and expansion of the Seattle-Tacoma Airport and its accompanying jet noise which goes over 100 decibels in some of the classrooms of Highline schools, needs its own representative on this most important commission. If we could elect a representative from our area, I am sure the Port Commission's attitude would be more responsive to the problems of our citizens.

Enclosed is a copy of House Bill 519. I would hope that you would support this measure, and will send letters to legislators in King County and our local newspapers supporting HB 519. Urge your friends also to send letters.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank-you for your assistance.

Sincerely your

King Lysen

State Representative

31st District

KL:ml

Enclosure