



Washington State  
Association of Counties

## LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

DECEMBER 8TH, 2011 – 8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM  
WASHINGTON COUNTIES BUILDING – OLYMPIA, WA

- 8:00 am**      **Welcome and Introductions**
- 8:15 am**      **Co-Chair remarks and approval of the agenda**
- 8:30 am**      **Approval of November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes**
- 8:45 am**      **Personal Property Tax Amnesty (Action)**
- 9:00 am**      **Workgroup Updates**
- 9:30 am**      **Handouts and messages for legislator meetings**
- 10:00 am**     **Adjourn and head to the hill for meetings**
- 12:00 pm**     **Lunch at WSAC**



## LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

### ISSUE PAPER

<b>Date</b>	December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
<b>Category</b>	Action
<b>Policy Area</b>	General Gov't
<b>Subject</b>	Personal Property Taxes
<b>Staff Contact</b>	Scott Merriman, smerriman@wacounties.org

**Issue:**

King County is requesting WSAC support and add to our agenda legislation that allows the Assessor to waive penalties if the taxpayer files a correct list and statement of personal property tax by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 and remits full payment by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

King County believes this temporary amnesty will encourage tax payers to self report error and realize additional property tax income.

**Background:**

Persons and corporations are required to pay taxes on taxable personal property, including machinery, equipment, and supplies of businesses and farmers, state-assessed commercial boats, and most operating property of public utilities. Items that are exempt include household goods, intangible personal property, and business inventories. Farm machinery is exempt from the state levy but subject to local levies. Owners of personal property list the items, their acquisition cost, and the year acquired with the county assessor each year. The assessor then determines the current assessed value.

Personal Property collection is a self-reporting system in Washington State (including King County).

Self-reporting system is backed by laws that allow for fines and back collection on those that do not report their personal property.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Support the bill.



LSC Action/Decision:

