

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislation Details (With Text)

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On agenda:	10/29/2018							
Final Action:					Ord. No.			
Title:	A RESOLUTION supporting Washington Initiative Measure 940 and urging Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Initiative 940 on the November 6, 2018, general election ballot.							
Sponsors:	Bruce Harrell, M. Lorena González							
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CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION supporting Washington Initiative Measure 940 and urging Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Initiative 940 on the November 6, 2018, general election ballot.

WHEREAS, the people have a strong interest in reducing police use of force; and

WHEREAS, de-escalation and crisis intervention training does reduce use of force; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Initiative 940 is to decrease the use of deadly force by police in Washington; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2018, the Washington State Legislature adopted this initiative as well as House Bill

3003, which modified the initiative, as a compromise between "De-Escalate Washington," community

leaders, and law enforcement organizations, but the Washington Supreme Court held that the initiative

required a vote of the people; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle is committed to racial and social equity; and

- WHEREAS, systemic racism implicates all facets of society, and history has shown deep racial disparities in policy and the criminal justice system; and
- WHEREAS, numerous reports reflect that black men aged 15 to 34 are significantly overrepresented in police shootings relative to other demographic and age groups; and
- WHEREAS, the current standard under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 9A.16.040 to determine whether a law enforcement officer is criminally liable for using deadly force requires proof of "malice"; and
- WHEREAS, Washington is the only state that requires the extremely high "malice" standard for criminal liability in use of deadly force; and

WHEREAS, constitutional, community-based policing should not be confined to Seattle or any one area;

- WHEREAS, Washington families deserve improvements to officer training and accountability that will increase community safety;
- WHEREAS, Initiative 940 would change the standard for when a law enforcement officer may justifiably use deadly force to a "good faith" standard that has been adopted by other states; and
- WHEREAS, Initiative 940 would require completely independent investigations when an officer uses deadly force, which is intended to improve credibility and transparency; and
- WHEREAS, Initiative 940 would require investigations to include tribal governments where their members are involved; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 940 would require law enforcement officers to provide first aid to save lives; and

- WHEREAS, Initiative 940 would require all law enforcement officers in Washington to take violence deescalation training, mental health training, and first aid training; and
- WHEREAS, Initiative 940 provides modern training to help officers communicate with people from all walks of life and to better understand the people they serve, thereby making everyone safer; andWHEREAS, should Initiative 940 be enacted, The City of Seattle will work to ensure consistent training and

requirements statewide; and

WHEREAS, after notice in accordance with RCW 42.17A.555 and Seattle Municipal Code Section 2.04.300, persons in favor of Initiative 940 and those opposed to it have been given an equal opportunity to share their views in an open public meeting; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR

CONCURRING, THAT:

Section 1. The Mayor and Seattle City Council urge Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Initiative 940 in the November 6, 2018, general election.

Adopted by the City Council the	day of		, 2018, and signed by
me in open session in authentication of its a	doption this	day of	, 2018.
			-
	President	of the City Council	
The Mayor concurred the	day of	, 2018.	
	Jenny A. Durkan,	Mayor	-
	Jenny IX. Durkan,	Wayor	
Filed by me this day of		, 2018.	
			-
	Monica Martinez	Simmons, City Clerk	

(Seal)