

# Resolution No. 1999-08

[\(Council Minutes 99/02/01\)](#)

## Amended RESOLUTION NO. 1999-8

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, expressing opposition to legislative proposals that would allow arbitrary changes to Clover Park School District boundaries

WHEREAS, in recent years, legislative proposals have surfaced that sought to change existing law by providing a mechanism whereby property of one school district will be transferred into another school district based upon the vote of a very small portion of the population of the affected school districts, or otherwise provide for a change to the school district boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, such proposals have specifically targeted the Clover Park School District, in favor of the Steilacoom School District, dealing with property in the Northwest Landing development; and,

WHEREAS, such proposals have the potential to significantly adversely impact the Clover Park School District, which school district includes a large number of residents and taxpayers in the City of Lakewood, setting a very dangerous precedent for departure from the process of existing law; and,

WHEREAS, a result that would stem from such proposals, if enacted and used to change such school district boundaries, would be an increase in the taxes paid by those residents within the Clover Park School District because of the loss of property from the school district boundaries, in favor of the Steilacoom School District; and,

WHEREAS, the effect of such proposals, if passed into law, would be to present the potential for mandated changes in the boundaries of school districts based upon factors which are unable to be predicted in the future, so that the full impact of such boundary changes cannot be appreciated or anticipated, leaving all school districts in positions of uncertainty with respect to their future tax bases; and,

WHEREAS, if portions of the Clover Park School District, at Northwest Landing, were transferred to the Steilacoom School District, the specific impacts to the Clover Park School District would be significant, and such a change would not take into considerations such factors as the changes in student populations served, nor the comparative per capita assessed valuation of the Clover Park School District and the Steilacoom School District, and would arbitrarily result in the loss of tax base property from the Clover Park School District, to the benefit of the Steilacoom School District, even though the Steilacoom School District has one of the highest per student assessed values of all school districts in Pierce County and Clover Park School District, which would suffer the loss of property revenues and a decrease in assessed valuation, has one of the lowest per student assessed valuation of all of the school districts in Pierce County; and,

WHEREAS, in order to provide for fairness to the taxpayers and school children who would be adversely impacted by such an arbitrary change in school district boundaries, and in order to avoid the uncertainties that could result in the future to various school districts across the state because of the dangerous precedent of circumventing current law, the full impacts of which would be unable to be anticipated, any such legislative proposal should be rejected.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council requests that the legislative support the State Board of Education recommendation on school boundaries which does not provide for arbitrary, financially harmful boundary adjustments.

Section 2. That the Legislature is requested to reject and defeat any proposals that would amend current law in a manner that would provide for the arbitrary change of school district boundaries.

Section 3. That a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to each member of the state legislature serving the citizens of the City of Lakewood.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 1st day of February, 1999.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Harrison, Mayor

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Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

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Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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