

ORDINANCE 188

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WOODINVILLE,
WASHINGTON, PROVIDING THAT THE COSTS OF
COLLECTION SHALL BE ADDED TO THE AMOUNT OF ANY
DEBTS ASSIGNED BY THE CITY TO A COLLECTION
AGENCY FOR COLLECTION.**

WHEREAS, RCW 19.16.500 has authorized cities to assign to a collection agency for purposes of collection any debts owed the city by any person; and

WHEREAS, a new subsection was added to RCW 19.15.500 by the 1997 Washington State Legislature permitting the costs involved in the collection of debts through the use of a collection agency to be added to and included in the debt to be paid by the debtor; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent and appropriate that the City Council authorize that the costs of collection of debts through collection agencies be added to the debt assigned to a collection agency by the City; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODINVILLE, WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN
AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Woodinville Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of the following new chapter to read as follows:

Chapter 3.30

3.30.010 Collection Costs Recoverable. In all instances where the City assigns to a collection agency for a collection of any debt owed to the city, including but not limited to past due utility charges, fines, assessments, and permit and license fees and charges, the costs involved in the collection of the debt through use of the collection agency are costs that shall be added to and included in the debt to be paid by the debtor.

3.30.020 Requirement for Debt Assignment. No debt may be assigned to a collection agency unless (1) there has been an attempt to advise the debtor (a) of the existence of the debt and (b) that the debt may be assigned to a collection agency for collection if the debt is not paid, and (2) at least thirty (30) days have elapsed from the time notice was attempted.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance, being an exercise of a power specifically delegated to the City legislative body, is not subject to referendum. This ordinance shall take effect five days after passage of publication of an approved summary thereof, consisting of the title.

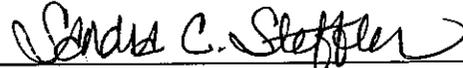
PASSED and ADOPTED by the Woodinville City Council this 8th day of

September, 1997.

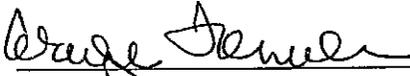
CITY OF WOODINVILLE


MAYOR ROBERT R. MILLER

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:


CITY CLERK, SANDRA STEFFLER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


By: City Attorney

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 9-9-87
PUBLISHED: 9-15-97
EFFECTIVE DATE 9-19-97
ORDINANCE NO: 188