



Planning and Community Development

Ryan Countryman

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

ECAF: 2023-1016

Motion: 23-375

Type:

- Contract
- Board Appt.
- Code Amendment
- Budget Action
- Other

Requested Handling:

- Normal
- Expedite
- Urgent

Fund Source:

- General Fund
- Other
- N/A

Executive Rec:

- Approve
- Do Not Approve
- N/A

Approved as to

Form:

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Subject: Reappointing Ashvi Shah to the Snohomish County Children’s Commission.

Scope: Motion 23-375 would reappoint Ashvi Shah to a second one-year term as a youth commissioner beginning on confirmation.

Duration: One year, commencing on passage.

Fiscal Impact: Current Year Multi-Year N/A

Authority Granted: N/A

Background:

Ashvi Shah has completed one term on the Children’s Commission as a youth commissioner and is eligible to serve a second per [SCC 2.410.040](#).¹ As a high school honors student and regular volunteer, Ashvi Shah is well-qualified to continue serving on the commission. She writes that “I would like to be a part of tangible impact on the health and wellness of children in my area.”

The Children’s Commission was created in 1985 by Ordinance 85-060 as a volunteer advisory body to the County Executive and Department of Human Services. There have been some changes over the years regarding provisions for powers, duties, appointments, and terms. Current provisions are in [Chapter 2.410 SCC](#). Additional details are on page 2.

Request: Move to General Legislative Session on September 13, 2023, for consideration.

¹ Ashvi Shah was first appointed by Motion 22-190.

Appendix A: About the Children's Commission

Membership consists of up to 25 members which shall serve as advisors on issues of health, safety, and social services for infants, young children, and youth in the community. The commission shall advise the executive and department of human services on all matters related to the administration and enhancement of children's programs ([SCC 2.410.010](#)). Per [SCC 2.410.020](#), the Children's Commission has the powers and duties to:

- (1) Conduct public hearings to determine the needs and priorities of children ages 0-18 in Snohomish County as related to health, mental health, safety, and social services.
- (2) Hold community forums for the surfacing of issues affecting children's well-being and service delivery needs.
- (3) Report within a year and at regular intervals thereafter on the status of children's service needs and resources in Snohomish County; making its findings a written document on which advice and recommendations for future action and planning shall be based.
- (4) Advise county government on matters relating to the priorities, objectives, and tasks to be performed affecting infants, young children and youth.
- (5) Act as a resource center providing technical assistance to community-based organizations dealing with children's issues, assist in the development of grants affecting infants, young children, and youth, and provide input to local, state and federal agencies on these issues.
- (6) Act in an advocate role to public and private sector for the interest of children of Snohomish County.
- (7) [Perform] Such other duties as may be assigned.

The membership's composition pursuant to SCC 2.410.030 is to be as follows:

- 2 members under the age of 18 years old
- 10 at-large members
- 3 members from each of the 5 districts

Additionally, members shall represent one or more of the following areas: health and human services, education, business and labor, law and justice, concerned citizens, Washington department of social and health services, US department of health and human services, youth, elected officials, and minorities. The County Council may name an ex officio member to the commission.

Terms for people under the age of 18 are one year and for people 18 and over are four years. People may serve up to three consecutive terms. After serving three consecutive terms, a person may serve additional terms after two years' absence from the commission.