
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 2609

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Hine, G. Fisher, R. Fisher, Brough, Heavey, Locke, Chandler, Leonard, Valle, Wood, Prentice, Hochstatter, Mitchell, Horn, Rasmussen, Paris, R. King, Beck, Spanel, Nelson, Appelwick, Wilson, Franklin, Wang, Jacobsen and Belcher)

Read first time 02/11/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to air transportation; amending RCW 47.86.030;
2 adding a new section to chapter 53.08 RCW; creating a new section; and
3 declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that an integrated
6 air transportation system with efficient intermodal linkages is vital
7 to the economic and social vitality of the state. Coordination and
8 cooperation among public agencies and between the public and private
9 sector is crucial to the development of such a system. In 1990, the
10 legislature created the air transportation commission to develop an air
11 transportation strategy, implicitly based upon the coordination and
12 cooperation of these entities.

13 Specifically, the commission will assess the state-wide
14 implications of local and regional air transportation planning,

1 recommend specific goals for air transportation, and define the
2 relationship between air transportation and environmental and economic
3 policy goals. It will also formulate state-wide policy
4 recommendations, and coordinate air transportation with state-wide
5 transportation system planning.

6 Clearly, the commission's work will assist the legislature in
7 developing a comprehensive air transportation policy that will sustain
8 economic development and incorporate the legislature's recently adopted
9 growth strategies; provided, however, that nothing contained herein
10 shall be construed to prevent any county-wide or multicounty planning
11 council created pursuant to RCW 36.70A.210, regional transportation
12 planning organization created pursuant to chapter 47.80 RCW, municipal
13 corporation, special district, political subdivision or any other unit
14 of local government from proceeding with the planning process pursuant
15 to the requirements of the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW or
16 be construed to prevent compliance with the State Environmental Policy
17 Act, chapter 43.21C RCW or with the National Environmental Policy Act,
18 42 U.S.C. Secs. 4321 through 4370b.

19 The final report of the air transportation commission to the
20 legislative transportation committee is due by December 1, 1994, with
21 an interim report to that committee by December 1, 1992.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 53.08 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 No political subdivision or municipal corporation of the state of
25 Washington in a county in the western part of the state, as divided by
26 the summit of the cascade mountain range, and with a population of one
27 hundred fifty thousand or more on January 1, 1992, may construct any
28 runway of one thousand feet or more or cause any runway to be extended
29 before the air transportation commission has submitted its final report

1 to the legislative transportation committee which shall occur no later
2 than December 1, 1994.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 47.86.030 and 1991 c 231 s 7 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 The commission shall conduct studies to determine Washington's
6 long-range air transportation policy, including an assessment of
7 intermodal needs, and to assess the impacts of increasing air traffic
8 upon surrounding communities, including an evaluation of noise
9 mitigation and surface transportation impacts at existing facilities,
10 and the potential impact at new or expanded facilities.

11 The studies shall include, but are not limited to the following:

12 (1) The feasibility of acquiring the Stampede Pass rail line for
13 use as a utility corridor, intermodal high speed transportation
14 corridor or other transportation uses. The study shall include an
15 examination of the ownership of the Stampede Pass rail line right of
16 way and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of preserving the
17 Stampede Pass rail line corridor. It shall include interested public
18 and private agencies when conducting the study. The commission shall
19 encourage local communities and the private sector to financially
20 participate in the study. The commission shall make a presentation of
21 the feasibility findings to the legislative transportation committee on
22 or before December 1, 1990.

23 (2) Recommendations to the legislature on future Washington state
24 air transportation policy, including the expansion of existing and
25 potential air carrier and reliever facilities and the siting of such
26 new facilities, specifically taking into consideration intermodal
27 needs. The commission shall consider the development of wayports in
28 eastern Washington, taking into account similar developments in Japan
29 and Germany, in order to reduce congestion resulting from rapid growth

1 in the Puget Sound region. The commission shall coordinate its study
2 of airport siting policy issues with the efforts of the high-speed
3 ground transportation steering committee.

4 The commission shall submit findings and recommendations to the
5 legislative transportation committee by December 1, 1994, with ~~((an~~
6 ~~interim))~~ completed reports to be presented to the legislative
7 transportation committee ~~((by December 1, 1992))~~ on the dates as
8 provided in subsection (3) of this section.

9 (3) A report on the following work program projects by December 1,
10 1992:

11 (a) Evaluation of the importance of air transportation in the
12 economic and social vitality of the state including costs and effects
13 of delay of air capacity expansion;

14 (b) Air transportation demand, aviation industry trends, and air
15 capacity in Washington through 2020;

16 (c) A review of the final draft of the Puget Sound air
17 transportation committee's flight plan assessments of air capacity and
18 demand.

19 (4) A transportation systems planning evaluation of air
20 transportation planning options in Washington by July 1, 1993.

21 (5) The work program project reports as provided in subsection (3)
22 of this section and the policy recommendations of the commission shall
23 be transmitted to regional transportation planning organizations
24 created pursuant to chapter 47.80 RCW. Each regional transportation
25 planning organization shall consider the commission's project reports
26 and policy recommendations when adopting its regional transportation
27 plan and in its review of local comprehensive plans for consistency
28 with the regional transportation plans.

29 (6) A review of the environmental, social, and economic costs
30 associated with Washington state's air transportation system. The

1 commission shall review and comment upon the effectiveness and
2 reasonableness of current or planned practices to mitigate the adverse
3 environmental effects of operating, developing, or expanding the
4 state's air transportation system.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
7 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
8 effect immediately.