
SENATE BILL 5564

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Erwin, Thorsness, Johnson, von Reichbauer, Snyder, Nelson and A. Smith.

Read first time February 7, 1991. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the use of van pools; adding a new
2 section to chapter 47.20 RCW; creating a new section; and making an
3 appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that traffic
6 congestion can be reduced efficiently by encouraging people to share
7 rides. The legislature further finds that passengers are attracted to
8 ridesharing if travel time is not adversely affected. Many potential
9 ridesharers are lost because the time to form car pools and van pools
10 by traveling to a central meeting place is perceived as a crucial
11 obstacle. Most car pools are formed from members of the same household
12 or from the same neighborhood. The legislature encourages the
13 exploration of means to increase the number of neighborhood-based van
14 pools.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.20 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The department of transportation shall contract with the
4 Washington state transportation center at the University of Washington
5 to conduct a study and make recommendations for legislation concerning
6 the following:

7 (a) How to create incentives to operate and participate in van
8 pools in neighborhood areas.

9 (b) How best to make van pool operation an attractive "cottage"
10 industry.

11 (c) Whether there exist reasonable alternatives to the traditional
12 meeting place approach to van pooling.

13 (d) Any other time savings factors that might encourage greater
14 participation in van pools.

15 (e) An assessment of costs and benefits associated with any
16 recommendation.

17 (2) The department of transportation shall report findings and
18 recommendations to the legislature no later than January 1, 1992.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The sum of forty-nine thousand
20 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
21 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the transportation fund to the
22 department of transportation for the purpose of implementing section 2
23 of this act.

24 (2) The contract, referred to under section 2 of this act, shall
25 call for the Washington state transportation center to use best efforts
26 to procure matching funds or other additional funds to assist in
27 fulfillment of the purposes set out under section 2 of this act.