

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5180

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JANUARY 17, 1994

**Brief Description:** Revising provisions relating to the legislative transportation committee.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Vognild, Nelson, Skratek, Winsley, Loveland, Drew, Prince, Sellar, Sheldon, Prentice, von Reichbauer, Barr, Erwin and Roach

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5180 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Vognild, Chairman; Loveland, Vice Chairman; Skratek, Vice Chairman; Drew, Haugen, Morton, Nelson, Oke, Prentice, Prince, M. Rasmussen, Schow, Sellar, Sheldon and Winsley.

**Staff:** Gene Baxstrom (786-7303)

**Hearing Dates:** January 27, 1993; January 17, 1994

**BACKGROUND:**

The Legislative Transportation Committee was first established in law in 1947 as the Joint Fact Finding Committee on Highways, Streets and Bridges, with 12 members -- one Senator and one Representative from each of the six state Department of Highways districts. In the intervening years, the committee's name was changed, geographical representation requirements were dropped, the membership was gradually increased and in 1959, a one-member majority for the House was established.

Appointment of members to the committee is by the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate at the close of session in odd-numbered years.

Since 1967 the membership has been 12 Representatives and 11 Senators. From the beginning, appointees from each house have reflected the party split within each house.

The law is silent as to the process for selection of officers of the committee.

**SUMMARY:**

The number of Senate members on the Legislative Transportation Committee is increased from 11 to 12 (to equal the number of House members). The party split for appointees from each house is made equal. Vacancies must be filled from the same house and party as the original appointment.

It is specified that the committee will elect a chair every two years, that the chairmanship shall rotate between the House and Senate, and that the chair elected at the close of the 1993 session shall be a Senator.

**EFFECT OF PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE:**

The provision that the committee chair be a senator at the close of the 1993 session is changed to the close of the 1995 session.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested

**TESTIMONY FOR:** None

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** No one