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SENATE BILL 6721

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Winsley, Oke, Wojahn, Goings and Kohl

Read first time 01/29/98. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to a study of the student transportation  
2 allocation; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The joint legislative audit and review  
5 committee shall either conduct or contract for a study on student  
6 transportation, with emphasis on the allocation provided for in RCW  
7 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.190. The study shall include an analysis  
8 of the adequacy of the allocation to fund home-to-school and return  
9 transportation in support of the basic education program. The study  
10 also shall examine school district costs in funding other  
11 transportation in support of the basic education program. The study  
12 shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the effect of the  
13 following factors on student transportation costs: Traffic congestion  
14 and resulting increases in driver time; the need to transport students  
15 within a one-mile radius of a school due to hazardous walking  
16 conditions; school district transportation scheduling practices;  
17 current and potential use of mass transit; school districts contracting  
18 for transportation services with private providers; various geographic  
19 features; weather conditions; state rules that provide for counting

1 only those students riding to school, not those riding home from  
2 school; state rules that limit when ridership counts may be reported  
3 for allocation, and when the counts may be adjusted; and state rules  
4 for counting mid-day kindergarten students for funding.

5 Relevant statutes and rules that affect student transportation  
6 funding shall be reviewed. The joint legislative audit and review  
7 committee shall use the office of the superintendent of public  
8 instruction and the regional transportation supervisors in planning and  
9 conducting the study. The results and recommendations shall be  
10 reported to the house of representatives and senate education  
11 committees, the house of representatives appropriations committee, the  
12 senate ways and means committee, and the office of financial management  
13 by December 1998.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of five hundred thousand dollars, or  
15 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal  
16 year ending June 30, 1999, from the general fund to the joint  
17 legislative audit and review committee for the purpose of conducting  
18 the study in this act.

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