

2615

Sponsor(s): Representatives K. Schmidt, Fisher, Robertson, Mitchell, Wensman, O'Brien, Wood, Ogden, Gardner, Thompson and Conway; by request of Governor Locke

Brief Title: Creating partnerships for strategic freight investments.

**HB 2615 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington that limited public transportation funding and competition between freight and general mobility improvements for the same fund sources require strategic, prioritized freight investments that reduce barriers to freight movement, maximize cost-effectiveness, yield a return on the state's investment, require complementary investments by public and private interests, and solve regional freight mobility problems. State financial assistance for freight mobility projects must leverage other funds from all potential partners and sources, including federal, county, city, port district, and private capital.

Creates the freight mobility strategic investment board.

Requires the state-interest component of the state-wide multimodal transportation plan to include a freight mobility plan which shall assess the transportation needs to ensure the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of goods within and through the state and to ensure the state's economic vitality.

Requires port districts in the state to submit their development plans to the relevant regional transportation planning organization or metropolitan planning organization, the department, and affected cities and counties to better coordinate the development and funding of freight mobility projects.