

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## 2SSB 5171

---

As Passed Senate, March 11, 1999

**Title:** An act relating to Washington state patrol employment agreements.

**Brief Description:** Regulating Washington state patrol employment agreements.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Goings, Prentice and Rasmussen).

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Labor & Workforce Development: 1/21/99, 1/26/99 [DPS].  
Transportation: 2/25/99, 3/3/99 [DP2S].  
Passed Senate, 3/11/99, 47-0.

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5171 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Fairley, Chair; Franklin, Vice Chair; Kline, Wojahn.

**Staff:** Jack Brummel (786-7428)

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** That Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5171 be substituted therefor, and the second substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Gardner, Vice Chair; Goings, Vice Chair; Benton, Costa, Eide, Finkbeiner, Heavey, Horn, Jacobsen, Johnson, Morton, Oke, Patterson, Prentice, Sellar, Sheahan, T. Sheldon, Shin and Swecker.

**Staff:** Jennifer Ziegler (786-7316)

**Background:** The Public Employment Relations Commission has jurisdiction over collective bargaining issues involving the Washington State Patrol. The State Patrol may not engage in collective bargaining over wages and wage-related matters.

**Summary of Bill:** The Washington State Patrol may enter into collective bargaining, mediation, and arbitration over wage related-matters, but not over wages, retirement benefits, health insurance benefits, or employee insurance benefits. Agreements must be conditioned upon approval by the Legislature of necessary funds.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For (Labor & Workforce Development):** Currently troopers can't bargain for wages on wage related-items. The bill would allow bargaining on wage-related items only.

**Testimony Against (Labor & Workforce Development):** None.

**Testified (Labor & Workforce Development):** PRO: Bill Hanson, WA State Troopers Assn.; Bob Lenz, Lieutenants and Captains Assn.; Capt. Eric Robertson, WA State Patrol.

**Testimony For (Transportation):** State troopers simply want to have the same bargaining rights as other state agencies. There is no additional cost because any agreement with a financial impact would require legislative approval.

**Testimony Against (Transportation):** None.

**Testified (Transportation):** PRO: Senator Goings, prime sponsor; Bill Hanson, WSP Troopers Assn.; Scott Nelson, Troopers Assn., NW Washington; Jon Martin, Troopers Assn., N. Central Washington; Stu Halsan WSP Lieutenants Assn.; Capt. Eric Robertson, WSP.