
HOUSE BILL 2839

State of Washington 56th Legislature 2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Fortunato, Schindler, Campbell, Lambert and Benson

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to a comprehensive analysis of state-wide
2 transportation needs and priorities; amending 1998 c 348 s 202
3 (uncodified); creating a new section; repealing 1999 sp.s. c 1 s 207
4 (uncodified); providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The transportation improvement board, in
7 cooperation with the freight mobility strategic investment board, shall
8 convene a panel of transportation beneficiaries to conduct a
9 comprehensive analysis of state-wide transportation needs and
10 priorities, existing and potential transportation funding mechanisms,
11 and the policies and practices of governmental entities, private
12 businesses, and labor that affect the delivery of transportation
13 programs and projects. To the extent that it deems it practicable, the
14 board shall use the processes, procedures, materials, and working
15 groups or committees established by the blue ribbon commission on
16 transportation.

17 (2) The transportation improvement board, together with the freight
18 mobility strategic investment board, shall provide quarterly progress
19 reports to the governor, the transportation committees of the

1 legislature, and the house of representatives and senate fiscal
2 committees and shall report its final findings and recommendations by
3 December 1, 2000.

4 **Sec. 2.** 1998 c 348 s 202 (uncodified) is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 **FOR THE LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

| | | | |
|----|--|----|-----------|
| 7 | Motor Vehicle Fund--State Appropriation | \$ | 3,822,000 |
| 8 | Transportation Fund--State Appropriation | \$ | 250,000 |
| 9 | Central Puget Sound Public Transportation | | |
| 10 | Account--State Appropriation | \$ | 100,000 |
| 11 | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$ | 4,172,000 |

12 The appropriations in this section are subject to the following
13 conditions and limitations and specified amounts are provided solely
14 for that activity:

15 (1) In order to meet the growing demand for services the
16 legislative transportation committee shall seek accountability and
17 efficiencies within transportation agency programs through in-depth
18 program evaluations. These program evaluations shall consider:

19 (a) Whether or not strategic planning and performance-based
20 budgeting is a preferable planning and budgeting tool to the current
21 incremental budgeting process for agency administrative programs and
22 capital program budgeting;

23 (b) How the programs are performing currently and how service would
24 be affected at different funding levels using performance measures; and

25 (c) What decision-making tools aid with the budgeting and oversight
26 of these programs, such as tools developed during the maintenance
27 accountability program (MAP) conducted by the legislative
28 transportation committee during the 1995-97 biennium.

29 (2) In consultation with other legislative committees, the
30 legislative transportation committee shall study ways to enhance budget
31 development tools and presentation documents that will better
32 illustrate agencies' full appropriation authority and the intended
33 outcomes of the appropriation.

34 (3) The legislative transportation committee shall conduct an
35 evaluation of services provided by the county road administration
36 board, the transportation improvement board and the TransAid division
37 within the department of transportation. The evaluation shall assess
38 whether consolidation of any of these activities will result in

1 efficiencies and improved service delivery. The evaluation shall also
2 assess the funding structure of these organizations to determine
3 whether there are any benefits gained from a more simplified structure.
4 The evaluation shall also assess other funding authorities to see if
5 there is potential for further expansion of these revenues. The
6 committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the 1998
7 legislature and, if needed, prepare legislation to implement those
8 recommendations. \$150,000 of the motor vehicle fund--state
9 appropriation is provided for this evaluation.

10 ~~(4) ((The legislative transportation committee, in cooperation with~~
11 ~~the house appropriations committee, the senate ways and means~~
12 ~~committee, and the office of financial management, shall study and~~
13 ~~report to the legislature its findings regarding the process and~~
14 ~~procedures for calculation, determination, and collection of the~~
15 ~~amounts of motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) collected on the sale or~~
16 ~~lease of motor vehicles in this state. The report shall include~~
17 ~~findings as to the base amount for calculation of MVET, the~~
18 ~~amortization schedule for calculation of MVET, and adequacy and~~
19 ~~efficiency of current systems to provide accurate and timely~~
20 ~~information to those responsible for determining and collecting the~~
21 ~~MVET due, including recommendations for determining the MVET due for~~
22 ~~current and future multiple MVET tax structures. The report must also~~
23 ~~include a status report as to the progress and feasibility of using~~
24 ~~third party information providers or using private vendors to collect~~
25 ~~the MVET. \$200,000 of the transportation fund state appropriation is~~
26 ~~provided for this evaluation including the use of a consultant. This~~
27 ~~\$200,000 amount is null and void if an appropriation for this activity~~
28 ~~is enacted in any other appropriations bill by June 30, 1997.~~

29 ~~(5))~~ During the 1998 interim, the legislative transportation
30 committee shall conduct a study relating to interagency reimbursements,
31 cost allocations, debt service authorizations, and other budget
32 accountability issues.

33 ~~((7))~~ (5) The legislative transportation committee shall study
34 the economic and transportation impact of a draw-down of the
35 Columbia/Snake river. At a minimum, the study should address the
36 following issues: (a) Impacts on alternate transportation modes:
37 State and local road deterioration, congestion, safety, rail, and truck
38 capacity; (b) impacts to producers, growers, and shippers, such as
39 access to markets and transportation costs; (c) impacts to river, such

1 as transportation, jobs, and businesses; and (d) impacts on the state's
2 export sales.

3 ~~((+8+))~~ (6) \$1,000,000 of the motor vehicle fund--state
4 appropriation is provided solely for the following purpose: By June 1,
5 1998, the legislature and the governor shall convene a panel of
6 transportation beneficiaries to conduct a comprehensive analysis of
7 state-wide transportation needs and priorities; existing and potential
8 transportation funding mechanisms, and the policies and practices of
9 governmental entities, private businesses, and labor that affect the
10 delivery of transportation programs and projects. By May 1, 1998, the
11 speaker of the house of representatives and the majority leader of the
12 senate shall appoint two members from each caucus of the house of
13 representatives and senate and the governor shall appoint individuals
14 representing, at a minimum, the following entities: The governor;
15 state agencies whose policies, practices, and procedures have a direct
16 impact on the delivery of transportation programs, projects, and
17 services; cities; counties; regional transportation planning
18 organizations; ports; passenger rail; light density freight rail;
19 transit agencies; the trucking industry; the steamship industry; major
20 employers; the retail industry; agricultural business; labor;
21 contractors; and the general public.

22 The panel shall provide quarterly progress reports to the governor,
23 the legislative transportation committee, and the house of
24 representatives and senate fiscal committees and shall report its final
25 findings and recommendations by December 1, 2000.

26 ~~((+9+))~~ (7) Up to \$100,000 of the central Puget Sound public
27 transportation account--state appropriation and up to \$50,000 of the
28 transportation fund--state appropriation are provided solely for a
29 contracted performance and management audit of selected public
30 transportation systems to ascertain the relative effectiveness and
31 efficiency of those systems and, where appropriate, provide
32 recommendations that would improve efficiency and effectiveness. The
33 audit shall also determine the accuracy of the information contained in
34 the annual public transportation systems report published by the
35 department of transportation.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Effective December 31, 2000, 1999 sp.s. c 1
37 s 207 (uncodified) is repealed.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary
2 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety,
3 or support of the state government and its existing public
4 institutions, and take effect immediately.

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