
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2866

State of Washington 56th Legislature 2000 Regular Session

By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Fisher and Mitchell)

Read first time 02/07/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to operation of ferries in Washington state;
2 creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The joint task force on ferries is
5 created, to be composed of:

6 (a) Eight members of the legislature selected as follows:

7 (i) Four members of the senate, two from each of the major
8 caucuses, to be appointed by the president of the senate;

9 (ii) Four members of the house of representatives, two from each of
10 the major caucuses, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of
11 representatives; and

12 (iii) The members appointed from each major caucus of the senate
13 and the house of representatives must include one member from a
14 legislative district that encompasses a terminus of a Washington state
15 ferry route and one from a legislative district that does not include
16 a terminus of a Washington state ferry route;

17 (b) At least one person designated by the cochairs representing
18 each of the following:

19 (i) Ferry advisory committees;

1 (ii) Persons who do not use ferries;
2 (iii) Labor organizations representing ferry workers;
3 (iv) Washington State Ferries;
4 (v) Transit operators;
5 (vi) The office of financial management; and
6 (vii) Other groups as deemed appropriate by the cochairs of the
7 task force.

8 (2) The transportation committees shall provide staff support as
9 mutually agreed by the cochairs of the joint select committee. The
10 speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate
11 shall designate the cochairs.

12 (3) The legislative transportation committee shall pay the expenses
13 of the legislative committee members.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The joint task force on ferries shall report
15 to the full legislature at the beginning of the 2001 legislative
16 session. The report must include, but not be limited to, analysis and
17 recommendations on the following:

18 (1) Establishment of a long-term goal for a target for recovery of
19 operating costs from fare revenue that recognizes that the operation of
20 the ferries is the proprietary provision of a service for a fee;

21 (2) Options for further cuts in ferry service or full or partial
22 restoration of ferry service cuts;

23 (3) Feasibility of full or partial privatization of the ferry
24 system, public-private partnerships, or state and local partnerships;
25 and

26 (4) Establishing the short-term and long-term capital needs of the
27 Washington state ferry system, recognizing that the ferry system is
28 part of the state's highway system and that it is appropriate that the
29 public pay for the capital needs of the ferry system as an extension of
30 the land-based highway system.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
32 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
33 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
34 immediately.

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