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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5955

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Snyder, Haugen, McDonald, Benton and Prentice)

Read first time 03/08/99.

1 AN ACT Relating to the legislative transportation committee;  
2 amending RCW 44.40.010; adding a new section to chapter 44.40 RCW; and  
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 44.40.010 and 1980 c 87 s 39 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 The joint fact-finding committee on highways, streets, and bridges  
8 originally created by chapter 111, Laws of 1947, recreated and renamed  
9 the joint committee on highways by chapter 3, Laws of 1963  
10 extraordinary session, is hereby recreated and renamed the legislative  
11 transportation committee. The renaming of said committee shall not  
12 affect any powers invested in it or its duties imposed upon it by any  
13 other statute. All appropriations made to the committee under its  
14 former name shall continue to be available to said committee as  
15 renamed, the legislative transportation committee. The committee shall  
16 consist of (~~eleven~~) twelve senators to be appointed by the president  
17 of the senate and twelve members of the house of representatives to be  
18 appointed by the speaker thereof. Not more than six members from each  
19 house may be from the same political party. A list of appointees shall

1 be submitted before the close of each regular legislative session  
2 during an odd-numbered year or any successive special session convened  
3 by the governor or the legislature prior to the close of such regular  
4 session or successive special session(s) for confirmation of senate  
5 members, by the senate, and house members, by the house. Vacancies  
6 occurring shall be filled by the appointing authority. All vacancies  
7 must be filled from the same political party and from the same house as  
8 the member whose seat was vacated.

9 The chair will be elected biennially by the membership of the  
10 committee. After January 1, 2001, each succeeding chair must be from  
11 the opposite house of the current chair, and be from the majority  
12 party. The vice-chair must be from the opposite house and the opposite  
13 political party.

14 On the effective date of this act, the president of the senate  
15 shall appoint an additional senate member as provided by the 1999  
16 amendment of this section. With the appointment of the additional  
17 member, the terms of officers elected before the effective date of this  
18 act are terminated, and the committee shall hold a new election of  
19 officers. The 1999 amendment of this section does not affect the 1997-  
20 1999 committee members, but applies only to members appointed at the  
21 close of the 1999 session.

22 The committee shall adopt rules and procedures for its orderly  
23 operation.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 44.40 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 The members of the legislative transportation committee shall form  
27 an executive committee consisting of two members from each of the four  
28 major political caucuses, which will include the chair and vice-chair  
29 of the legislative transportation committee. There will be four  
30 alternates to the executive committee, one from each of the four major  
31 political caucuses. Each alternate may represent a member from the  
32 same political caucus from which they were chosen when that member is  
33 absent, and have voting privileges during that absence.

34 The executive committee is responsible for performing all general  
35 administrative and personnel duties assigned to it in the rules and  
36 procedures adopted by the committee, as well as other duties delegated  
37 to it by the committee. Except when those responsibilities are assumed  
38 by the legislative transportation committee, the executive committee is

1 responsible for adopting interim work plans and meeting schedules,  
2 approving all contracts signed on behalf of the committee, approving  
3 policies for travel of members and staff, and setting policies for  
4 staff utilization.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
7 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
8 immediately.

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