
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5955

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 The president of the senate on the effective date of this act shall
15 appoint an additional senate member in compliance with the requirements
16 of this act. With the appointment of the additional senator, the terms
17 of the officers elected prior to the effective date of this act shall
18 terminate and a new election of officers shall be held.

19 The committee shall adopt rules and procedures for its orderly
20 operation.

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

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

31 The executive committee is responsible for performing all general
32 administrative and personnel duties assigned to it in the rules and
33 procedures adopted by the committee, as well as other duties delegated
34 to it by the committee. Except when those responsibilities are assumed
35 by the legislative transportation committee, the executive committee is
36 responsible for adopting interim work plans and meeting schedules,
37 approving all contracts signed on behalf of the committee, approving

1 policies for travel of members and staff, and setting policies for
2 staff utilization.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
6 immediately and applies retroactively to the appointment of members to
7 the legislative transportation committee at the end of the 1999
8 legislative session.

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