

6604

Sponsor(s): Senators Kastama, Swecker, Poulsen, Shin and B. Sheldon

Brief Description: Value pricing for limited access highway lanes.

SB 6604 - DIGEST

Recognizes the need to provide enhanced mobility within existing transportation corridors. For highways, this can be achieved with new and innovative programs that dynamically manage highway capacity through variable pricing.

Declares an intent to create a program allowing construction of new highway toll lanes, or conversion of existing high-occupancy vehicle lanes when the adjacent lane will also be operated as a highway toll lane. Any revenues net of facility operations and maintenance derived from toll charges should be reinvested within the same corridor to increase transit and carpool service.

Directs the department to report annually to the transportation commission and the legislature on the policies, operations, and effectiveness of high-occupancy toll lanes. The report must analyze and address the impacts on freeway efficiency, effectiveness for transit, ability to finance transportation services or improvements through tolls, and the impacts on all highway users.