

SHB 2124 - S AMD 653

By Senators Haugen, Swecker

ADOPTED 04/22/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state needs  
4 to reestablish itself as a leader in public transportation.

5 The legislature also finds that increased demands on transportation  
6 resources require increased coordination among public transportation  
7 service providers.

8 The legislature also finds that the efficiency of transportation  
9 corridors would be enhanced by a more proactive and integrated approach  
10 to public transportation service delivery and planning.

11 The legislature also finds that the state department of  
12 transportation is in the unique position of being able to improve  
13 connectivity between service territories of transit agencies and modes  
14 of transportation.

15 The legislature also finds that the state should be a center of  
16 excellence in public transportation planning and research and providing  
17 technical assistance to transit agencies serving urban, suburban, and  
18 rural areas.

19 Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that the state  
20 department of transportation be a leader in public transportation. The  
21 department shall play a guiding role in coordinating decentralized  
22 public transportation services, increasing connectivity between them,  
23 advocating for public transportation as a means to increase corridor  
24 efficiency, and increasing the integration of public transportation and  
25 the highway system.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW  
27 to read as follows:

28 (1) The secretary shall establish an office of transit mobility.  
29 The purpose of the office is to facilitate the integration of

1 decentralized public transportation services with the state  
2 transportation system. The goals of the office of transit mobility  
3 are: (a) To facilitate connection and coordination of transit services  
4 and planning; and (b) maximizing opportunities to use public  
5 transportation to improve the efficiency of transportation corridors.

6 (2) The duties of the office include, but are not limited to, the  
7 following:

8 (a) Developing a statewide strategic plan that creates common goals  
9 for transit agencies and reduces competing plans for cross-  
10 jurisdictional service;

11 (b) Developing a park and ride lot program;

12 (c) Encouraging long-range transit planning;

13 (d) Providing public transportation expertise to improve linkages  
14 between regional transportation planning organizations and transit  
15 agencies;

16 (e) Strengthening policies for inclusion of transit and  
17 transportation demand management strategies in route development,  
18 corridor plan standards, and budget proposals;

19 (f) Recommending best practices to integrate transit and demand  
20 management strategies with regional and local land use plans in order  
21 to reduce traffic and improve mobility and access;

22 (g) Producing recommendations for the public transportation section  
23 of the Washington transportation plan; and

24 (h) Participating in all aspects of corridor planning, including  
25 freight planning, ferry system planning, and passenger rail planning.

26 (3) In forming the office, the secretary shall use existing  
27 resources to the greatest extent possible.

28 (4) The office of transit mobility shall establish measurable  
29 performance objectives for evaluating the success of its initiatives  
30 and progress toward accomplishing the overall goals of the office.

31 (5) The office of transit mobility must report quarterly to the  
32 secretary, and annually to the transportation committees of the  
33 legislature, on the progress of the office in meeting the goals and  
34 duties provided in this section.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW  
36 to read as follows:

37 Local and regional transportation agencies shall adopt common

1 transportation goals. The office of transit mobility shall review  
2 local and regional transportation plans, including plans required under  
3 RCW 35.58.2795, 36.70A.070(6), 36.70A.210, and 47.80.023, to provide  
4 for the efficient integration of multimodal and multijurisdictional  
5 transportation planning.

6 **Sec. 4.** RCW 47.66.030 and 1996 c 49 s 3 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (1)~~((a))~~ The ~~((transportation improvement board is authorized and  
9 responsible for the final selection of programs and projects funded  
10 from the central Puget Sound public transportation account; public  
11 transportation systems account; and the intermodal surface  
12 transportation and efficiency act of 1991, surface transportation  
13 program, statewide competitive))~~ department shall establish a regional  
14 mobility grant program. The purpose of the grant program is to aid  
15 local governments in funding projects such as intercounty connectivity  
16 service, park and ride lots, rush hour transit service, and capital  
17 projects that improve the connectivity and efficiency of our  
18 transportation system. The department shall identify cost-effective  
19 projects that reduce delay for people and goods and improve  
20 connectivity between counties and regional population centers. The  
21 department shall submit a prioritized list of all projects requesting  
22 funding to the legislature by December 1st of each year.

23 ~~((b))~~ (2) The ~~((board))~~ department may establish ~~((subcommittees  
24 as well as technical))~~ an advisory committee~~((s))~~ to carry out the  
25 mandates of this chapter.

26 ~~((2) Expenses of the board, including administrative expenses for  
27 managing the program, shall be paid in accordance with RCW 47.26.140.)~~

28 (3) The department must report annually to the transportation  
29 committees of the legislature on the status of any grants projects  
30 funded by the program created under this section.

31 **Sec. 5.** RCW 47.66.040 and 1995 c 269 s 2606 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (1) The ~~((transportation improvement board))~~ department shall  
34 select ~~((programs and))~~ projects based on a competitive process  
35 ~~((consistent with the mandates governing each account or source of~~

1 funds)). The competition shall be consistent with the following  
2 criteria:

- 3 (a) Local, regional, and state transportation plans;
- 4 (b) Local transit development plans; and
- 5 (c) Local comprehensive land use plans.

6 (2) The following criteria shall be considered by the ((~~board~~))  
7 department in selecting programs and projects:

8 (a) Objectives of the growth management act, the high capacity  
9 transportation act, the commute trip reduction act, transportation  
10 demand management programs, federal and state air quality requirements,  
11 and federal Americans with Disabilities Act and related state  
12 accessibility requirements; and

13 (b) Enhancing the efficiency of regional corridors in moving people  
14 among jurisdictions and modes of transportation, energy efficiency  
15 issues, reducing delay for people and goods, freight and goods movement  
16 as related to economic development, regional significance, rural  
17 isolation, the leveraging of other funds ((~~including funds administered~~  
18 ~~by this board~~)), and safety and security issues.

19 (3) The ((~~board~~)) department shall determine the appropriate level  
20 of local match required for each ((~~program and~~)) project based on the  
21 source of funds.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 47.66 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 Beginning in 2005, and every other year thereafter, the department  
25 shall examine the division's existing grant programs, and the methods  
26 used to allocate grant funds, to determine the program's effectiveness,  
27 and whether the methods used to allocate funds result in an equitable  
28 distribution of the grants. The department shall submit a report of  
29 the findings to the transportation committees of the legislature.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. If Senate Bill No. 6103 is not enacted by  
31 June 30, 2005, this act is null and void."

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1           In line 2 of the title, after "planning;" strike the remainder of  
2 the title and insert "amending RCW 47.66.030 and 47.66.040; adding new  
3 sections to chapter 47.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 47.66  
4 RCW; and creating new sections."

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