

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 3001

As Reported By Senate Committee On:
Transportation, February 22, 2006

Title: An act relating to regulation of limousines.

Brief Description: Modifying the definition of limousine.

Sponsors: Representatives Hudgins and Conway; by request of Department of Licensing.

Brief History: Passed House: 2/10/06, 97-1.

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/21/06, 2/22/06 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Jacobsen, Vice Chair; Poulsen, Vice Chair; Benson, Ranking Minority Member; Berkey, Esser, Finkbeiner, Mulliken, Oke, Sheldon, Spanel and Weinstein.

Staff: Dory On (786-7321)

Background: Under current state law, the Business and Professions Division of the Department of Licensing (Department) licenses and regulates privately operated limousine services. The Department, in conjunction with the Washington State Patrol, regulates limousine businesses as to vehicle safety equipment, chauffeur qualifications, and required insurance.

State law defines several categories of limousines, including stretch limousines and executive sedans. Some limousines being manufactured are not readily categorized under current law.

Summary of Bill: Definitions for various limousines categories are deleted. The Department, in consultation with the Washington State Patrol, is directed to define categories of limousines by rule.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on November 1, 2006.

Testimony For: This bill will increase government efficiency. By addressing limousine categories by rule, the Department will be more responsive to business needs. The rulemaking process allows public commentary, while preserving safety. Washington State Patrol will be able to adjust its inspection operations to adjust to business needs.

Testimony Against: None.

Who Testified: PRO: Jana Jones, Department of Licensing; Captain Jeff De Vere, Washington State Patrol.