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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5121**

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by  
Senators Keiser, Swecker, Poulsen, Schmidt and Haugen)

READ FIRST TIME 03/07/05.

1            AN ACT Relating to determining long-term air transportation needs;  
2 adding new sections to chapter 47.68 RCW; creating a new section; and  
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 47.68 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) The aviation division of the department of transportation shall  
8 conduct a statewide airport capacity and facilities assessment. The  
9 assessment must include a statewide analysis of existing airport  
10 facilities, and passenger and air cargo transportation capacity,  
11 regarding both commercial aviation and general aviation; however, the  
12 primary focus of the assessment must be on commercial aviation. The  
13 assessment must at a minimum address the following issues:

14            (a) Existing airport facilities, both commercial and general  
15 aviation, including air side, land side, and airport service  
16 facilities;

17            (b) Existing air and airport capacity, including the number of  
18 annual passengers and air cargo operations;

1 (c) Existing airport services, including fixed based operator  
2 services, fuel services, and ground services; and

3 (d) Existing airspace capacity.

4 (2) The department shall consider existing information, technical  
5 analyses, and other research the department deems appropriate. The  
6 department may contract and consult with private independent  
7 professional and technical experts regarding the assessment.

8 (3) The department shall submit the assessment to the appropriate  
9 standing committees of the legislature, the governor, the  
10 transportation commission, and regional transportation planning  
11 organizations by July 1, 2006.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.68 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) After submitting the assessment under section 1 of this act,  
15 the aviation division of the department of transportation shall conduct  
16 a statewide airport capacity and facilities market analysis. The  
17 analysis must include a statewide needs analysis of airport facilities,  
18 passenger and air cargo transportation capacity, and demand and  
19 forecast market needs over the next twenty-five years with a more  
20 detailed analysis of the Puget Sound, southwest Washington, Spokane,  
21 and Tri-Cities regions. The analysis must address the forecasted needs  
22 of both commercial aviation and general aviation; however, the primary  
23 focus of the analysis must be on commercial aviation. The analysis  
24 must at a minimum address the following issues:

25 (a) A forecast of future airport facility needs based on passenger  
26 and air cargo operations and demand, airline planning, and a  
27 determination of aviation trends, demographic, geographic, and market  
28 factors that may affect future air travel demand;

29 (b) A determination of when the state's existing commercial service  
30 airports will reach their capacity;

31 (c) The factors that may affect future air travel and when capacity  
32 may be reached and in which location;

33 (d) The role of the state, metropolitan planning organizations,  
34 regional transportation planning organizations, the federal aviation  
35 administration, and airport sponsors in addressing statewide airport  
36 facilities and capacity needs; and

1 (e) Whether the state, metropolitan planning organizations,  
2 regional transportation planning organizations, the federal aviation  
3 administration, or airport sponsors have identified options for  
4 addressing long-range capacity needs at airports, or in regions, that  
5 will reach capacity before the year 2030.

6 (2) The department shall consider existing information, technical  
7 analyses, and other research the department deems appropriate. The  
8 department may contract and consult with private independent  
9 professional and technical experts regarding the analysis.

10 (3) The department shall submit the analysis to the appropriate  
11 standing committees of the legislature, the governor, the  
12 transportation commission, and regional transportation planning  
13 organizations by July 1, 2007.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 47.68 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) Upon completion of both the statewide assessment and analysis  
17 required under sections 1 and 2 of this act, the governor shall appoint  
18 an aviation planning council to consist of the following members: (a)  
19 The director of the aviation division of the department of  
20 transportation, or a designee; (b) the director of the department of  
21 community, trade, and economic development, or a designee; (c) a member  
22 of the transportation commission, who shall be the chair of the  
23 council; (d) two members of the general public with special knowledge  
24 or background in airport issues; (e) a technical expert familiar with  
25 federal aviation administration airspace and control issues; (f) a  
26 commercial airport operator; (g) a member of a growth management  
27 hearings board; (h) a representative of the Washington airport  
28 management association; and (i) an airline representative. The chair  
29 of the council may designate another councilmember to serve as the  
30 acting chair in the absence of the chair. The department of  
31 transportation shall provide all administrative and staff support for  
32 the council.

33 (2) The purpose of the council is to make recommendations, based on  
34 the findings of the assessment and analysis completed under sections 1  
35 and 2 of this act, regarding how best to meet the statewide commercial  
36 and general aviation capacity needs, as determined by the council. The  
37 council shall determine which regions of the state are in need of

1 improvement regarding the matching of existing, or projected, airport  
2 facilities, and the long-range capacity needs at airports within the  
3 region expected to reach capacity before the year 2030. After  
4 determining these areas, the council shall make recommendations  
5 regarding the placement of future commercial and general aviation  
6 airport facilities designed to meet the need for improved aviation  
7 planning in the region.

8 (3) The council shall submit its recommendations to the appropriate  
9 standing committees of the legislature, the governor, the  
10 transportation commission, and applicable regional transportation  
11 planning organizations.

12 (4) This section expires July 1, 2009.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
14 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
15 June 30, 2005, in the omnibus transportation appropriations act, this  
16 act is null and void.

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