
Transportation Committee

SB 5088

Brief Description: Regulating ferry queues.

Sponsors: Senators Haugen, Swecker and Shin.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Creates a traffic infraction for blocking a residential driveway or moving in front of another vehicle in a queue while waiting to board a Washington State ferry.

Hearing Date: 3/15/07

Staff: David Munnecke (786-7315).

Background:

Vehicles using the state ferry system are loaded on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, in order to protect public health, safety, and commerce and encourage more efficient use of the ferry system, preferential loading privileges are granted to certain classes of vehicles according to rules adopted by the Washington State Ferries. This includes emergency vehicles, school buses, and public transit vehicles.

Summary of Bill:

It is a traffic infraction for a driver of a motor vehicle intending to board a Washington State ferry to: (1) block a residential driveway while waiting to board the ferry; or (2) move in front of another vehicle in a queue already waiting to board the ferry without the authorization of a state ferry system employee. Vehicles qualifying for preferential loading privileges are exempt from these requirements. For a vehicle which moves in front of another vehicle, there is an additional penalty that requires the driver to move his or her vehicle to the end of the ferry queue.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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