

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5798

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As Passed Senate, March 12, 2007

**Title:** An act relating to design-build construction for transportation projects.

**Brief Description:** Preserving the use of design-build construction on certain transportation projects.

**Sponsors:** Senators Swecker and Haugen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Transportation: 2/08/07, 2/12/07 [DP].  
Passed Senate: 3/12/07, 49-0.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Marr, Vice Chair; Murray, Vice Chair; Swecker, Ranking Minority Member; Benton, Berkey, Clements, Delvin, Eide, Holmquist, Jacobsen, Kastama, Kauffman, Kilmer, Pflug, Sheldon and Spanel.

**Staff:** Hayley Gamble (786-7452)

**Background:** Design-build construction is a contracting technique that allows the owner of a project to contract with a single entity for the design and construction of a project. Some construction work can often begin before final design is complete, providing opportunity for cost savings and expedited project delivery. The more common project contract, design-bid-build, requires design to be completed before the construction portion of the project is awarded.

Current law allows the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to use design-build construction if construction activities are highly specialized, efficiency opportunities through the use of a single entity for design and construction are greater, or significant savings in project delivery time would be realized. A design-build project must be over ten million dollars, except that WSDOT may also use the design-build process on up to five pilot projects costing between two and ten million dollars.

The sunset provision on the use of design-build construction by WSDOT was intended to be removed by legislation passed in 2006 (HB 2874). A section of current law relating to design-build construction is due to expire in 2008.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Summary of Bill:** The design-build construction expiration date of April 30, 2008, is removed, allowing WSDOT to continue using this provision.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: Design Build has been used successfully on several projects. It is planned to be used on several up-coming highway projects.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Craig McDaniel, WSDOT.