
HOUSE BILL 3224

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Loomis, Hunter, Sells, and Lias

Read first time 01/24/08. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to a feasibility study on commuter rail services;
2 creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The Puget Sound regional council shall
5 survey existing studies and, to the extent necessary, conduct a
6 feasibility study to provide information on whether commuter rail
7 service between eastern Snohomish county and eastern King county, based
8 on commuter needs, can be a meaningful component of the region's future
9 transportation system. The feasibility study must be conducted if
10 existing studies do not provide sufficient information to:

11 (a) Assess how many riders might be attracted to commuter rail
12 service in this region;

13 (b) Identify and evaluate which locations would most benefit from
14 commuter rail service;

15 (c) Identify and evaluate potential station sites;

16 (d) Estimate costs for securing rights and constructing platforms
17 and stations;

18 (e) Provide a general analysis of the ability of the existing rail

1 lines and sections to accommodate commuter rail service, the effect of
2 this service on existing and planned rail and freight operations, and
3 an estimate of how tourism in the region might be affected;

4 (f) Estimate costs for refurbishing the rail bed in the Woodinville
5 subdivision to accommodate commuter rail service;

6 (g) Estimate costs for establishing a concurrent bicycle and
7 pedestrian pathway along or near the Woodinville subdivision;

8 (h) Evaluate technology and estimate costs relating to ensuring
9 safety, reducing noise, and mitigating environmental impacts of
10 commuter rail service on neighboring properties, traffic, pedestrians,
11 and bicycles; and

12 (i) Identify which portions of the existing railroad sections would
13 be most beneficial and cost-effective to develop for commuter rail
14 service.

15 (2) The Puget Sound regional council shall submit a report on the
16 results of this feasibility study to the transportation committees of
17 the house of representatives and senate by February 1, 2009.

18 (3) This section expires December 31, 2009.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
20 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
21 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus transportation appropriations act, this
22 act is null and void.

--- END ---