HB 1773-S - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Provides that, unless otherwise delegated, only the legislature may authorize the imposition of tolls on a specific facility or corridor.

Provides that all revenue from a tolled facility or corridor must be used only to improve, preserve, or operate the tolled facility or corridor on or in which the revenue is collected. For the purposes of this act, "facility or corridor" means the following: (1) A bridge, highway, or roadway;

(2) A vessel, bus, vehicle, or other conveyance of people or goods; or

(3) A system of facilities or corridors as defined by the tolling authority.

Provides that any proposal for the initial establishment of a tolled facility or corridor shall consider the following policy guidelines: (1) Overall Direction. Washington should use tolling to encourage effective use of the transportation system and provide a supplementary source of transportation funding.

(2) When to Use Tolling. Tolling should be used when it can be demonstrated to contribute a significant portion of the cost of a project that cannot be funded solely with existing sources or optimize the performance of the transportation system. Such tolling should in all cases be fairly and equitably applied in the context of the statewide transportation system and not have significant adverse impacts through the diversion of traffic to other routes.

(3) Use of Toll Revenue. Toll revenue should be used only to improve, preserve, or operate the transportation facility, corridor, or operation in which the revenue is collected.

(4) Setting Toll Rates. Toll rates, which may include variable pricing, should be set to optimize system performance, recognizing necessary trade-offs to generate revenue.

(5) Duration of Toll Collection. Because transportation infrastructure projects have costs and benefits that extend well beyond those paid for by initial construction funding, tolls should remain in place to fund additional capacity, capital rehabilitation, maintenance, and operations, and to optimize performance of the system.