

**SHB 1490 - H AMD 267**

By Representative Ericksen

NOT CONSIDERED 4/26/2009

1 On page 24, line 21, strike all of section 16 and insert the  
2 following:

3  
4 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** (1) A joint select committee on high-  
5 speed rail is established. The committee shall consider, but is not  
6 limited to, developing a plan to build and finance a high-speed rail  
7 network running from Bellingham to Portland, Oregon and from Seattle  
8 to Spokane. The high-speed rail network must be capable of traveling  
9 at speeds of least two hundred twenty-five miles per hour.

10 (2) The speaker of the house of representatives and the majority  
11 leader of the senate shall select two members from each of the two  
12 largest caucuses in the house of representatives and each of the two  
13 largest caucuses in the senate to serve on the committee.

14 (3) The committee may seek assistance from other members of the  
15 senate and the house of representatives and other interested parties  
16 to provide advice and technical assistance.

17 (4) Staff support for the committee must be provided by the house  
18 of representatives office of program research and the senate committee  
19 services.

20 (5) Legislative members of the committee may be reimbursed for  
21 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

22 (6) The expenses of the committee must be paid jointly by the  
23 senate and the house of representatives. Committee expenditures are  
24 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee  
25 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their  
26 successor committees.

27 (7) The committee shall examine and analyze the following items:

1 (a) The best available technology for a high-speed rail network  
2 based on the following criteria:

3 (i) Cost per mile for operation and construction;

4 (ii) Long-term costs;

5 (iii) Best top speed;

6 (iv) Flexibility;

7 (v) Ability to handle freight cargo;

8 (vi) Energy consumption; and

9 (vii) Reliability;

10 (b) Identification of potential rights-of-way and routes for new  
11 construction;

12 (c) Identification of public-private financing opportunities  
13 including:

14 (i) Design/build/operate;

15 (ii) Sale of development rights;

16 (iii) The potential for private ownership of all or portions of a  
17 new rail system, the operations of a rail system, and operations of  
18 ancillary services associated with the rail line; and

19 (iv) Potential operating costs and public subsidies;

20 (d) Examination of opportunities to colocate high-speed rail  
21 network tracks with a new power grid infrastructure;

22 (e) Quantification of economic development potential of  
23 constructing new rail lines.

24 (8) The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to  
25 the transportation committees of the house of representatives and the  
26 senate by December 1, 2010.

27 (9) This section expires February 1, 2011.

28  
29 NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. Sections 1 through 15 of this act take  
30 effect December 1, 2011."

31  
32 Correct the title

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**EFFECT:** (1) Establishes a joint select committee on high-speed rail and associated duties. (2) Specifies that the provisions establishing the joint select committee and prescribing its duties take effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is enacted.

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