

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5289

As Amended by House, April 14, 2009

Title: An act relating to an addition to the scenic and recreational highway system.

Brief Description: Adding a certain ferry route and roads to the scenic and recreational highway system.

Sponsors: Senators Ranker, Haugen, Swecker, King, Marr, Jarrett, Hargrove and Shin.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/26/09, 1/29/09 [DP, DNP].

Passed Senate: 2/25/09, 46-2.

Passed House: 4/14/09, 79-18.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Marr, Vice Chair; Swecker, Ranking Minority Member; Becker, Berkey, Delvin, Eide, Jacobsen, Jarrett, Kastama, Kauffman, Kilmer, King, Ranker and Sheldon.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senator Benton.

Staff: Janice Baumgardt (786-7319)

Background: The Department of Transportation (DOT) is directed in statute to develop criteria for assessing scenic byways and appropriate methods for nominations and applications for the designation and removal of the designation of the byways. Any person may nominate a roadway, path, or trail for inclusion in the program. DOT must submit its recommendations to the Transportation Commission. The commission may designate, on an interim basis, state scenic byways. In order to become permanent, the Legislature must approve this designation.

Summary of Bill: The Washington State Ferries Anacortes/San Juan Islands route is designated as a State Scenic Byway.

Appropriation: None.

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.

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: Scenic byway designations are a draw for tourists, which encourage economic development, which will help fund preserving the scenic nature of this ferry route.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Senator Ranker, prime sponsor; Mike Moran, Samish Tribe; Reema Griffith, Transportation Commission.

House Amendment(s): All state ferry routes are designated scenic byways.