

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6577

As of January 27, 2010

Title: An act relating to modifying the statewide transportation system policy goals.

Brief Description: Modifying the statewide transportation system policy goals.

Sponsors: Senators Kastama, Berkey, Swecker, Haugen, Kilmer and Shin.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/26/10.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Kelly Simpson (786-7403)

Background: Current law identifies five statewide transportation system policy goals for the planning, operation, performance of, and investment in, the state's transportation system. The policy goals are identified as follows:

- **Preservation:** To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services;
- **Safety:** To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system;
- **Mobility:** To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington State;
- **Environment:** To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment; and
- **Stewardship:** To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

Summary of Bill: A sixth statewide transportation system policy goal is added as follows:

- **Economic vitality:** To facilitate statewide the efficient movement of freight, the creation of business and job opportunities, and the benefits of tourism.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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.

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: Economic vitality is missing from the current statewide transportation goals, which seems to be an oversight. This version can hopefully be reconciled with the House version. Transportation and economic vitality are directly linked, including the movement of people and freight. Investments in the transportation system should recognize that fact. The transportation system is vital to both sides of the mountains.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Senator Kastama, prime sponsor; Amber Carter, Assoc. of WA Business; Carol Moser, WA State Transportation Commission; Leo Bowman, Benton County.