

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1644

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Transportation, March 21, 2013

Title: An act relating to transportation planning objectives and performance measures for local and regional agencies.

Brief Description: Concerning transportation planning objectives and performance measures for local and regional agencies.

Sponsors: Representatives Fey, Klippert, Ryu, Clibborn, Rodne, Hargrove, Moscoso and Pollet.

Brief History: Passed House: 3/09/13, 98-0.

Committee Activity: Transportation: 3/20/13, 3/21/13 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Eide, Co-Chair; King, Co-Chair; Hobbs, Vice Co-Chair; Fain, Budget Leadership Cabinet; Billig, Brown, Harper, Mullet, Schlicher, Sheldon and Smith.

Staff: Kelly Simpson (786-7403)

Background: There are currently six statewide transportation system policy goals for the planning, operation, performance of, and investment in, the state's transportation system. These policy goals are identified as such:

- economic vitality – to promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy;
- 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;
- environment – to enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment; and

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- stewardship – to continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) establishes objectives and performance measures for all state transportation agencies to ensure that transportation system performance progresses toward the attainment of the six policy goals. OFM then periodically submits reports to the Legislature and the Governor that measure progress toward the attainment by state transportation agencies of the policy goals and objectives.

The establishment of policy goals, objectives, and performance measures does not create a private right of action.

Summary of Bill: A local or regional agency engaging in transportation planning may establish objectives and performance measures to demonstrate progress toward the attainment of the six statewide policy goals or any other transportation policy goals established by the agency.

A local or regional agency engaging in transportation planning is encouraged to provide objectives and performance measures to be included with the objectives and performance measures submitted to the Legislature by OFM.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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: There is no companion bill to this legislation. It is an efficiency and effectiveness bill. It would provide liability protection for those local jurisdictions establishing performance measures. Counties are working on transportation performance measures and would prefer the data to be collected in this effort – not be used against them in a lawsuit. Performance measures are established at the state and federal levels and it makes sense to encourage local governments to do the same.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Representative Fey, prime sponsor; Gary Rowe, WA State Assn. of Counties.