
SENATE BILL 5502

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Rivers, Hobbs, Billig, and Keiser

Read first time 01/31/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring the tolling agreement for the Columbia
2 river crossing project to contain certain provisions; amending RCW
3 47.56.892; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.56.892 and 2012 c 36 s 4 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1)(a) For the Columbia river crossing project, the tolling
8 authority may enter into agreements with the Oregon state
9 transportation commission regarding the mutual or joint setting,
10 adjustment, and review of toll rates as the tolling authority may find
11 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. Any agreement
12 reached pursuant to this section, prior to or after the effective date
13 of this section, must contain the following:

14 (i) A provision ensuring that the tolls will be set at a rate that
15 will financially impact both Washington and Oregon residents equitably;

16 (ii) A provision reflecting that only emergency response vehicles
17 will be given authority to cross the bridge without paying the toll.

18 All other vehicles crossing the bridge must pay the full toll;

1 (iii) A provision creating a bistate citizen tolling advisory
2 committee that complies with RCW 47.56.840; and

3 (iv) A provision that clearly sets the process by which the tolling
4 authorities will reach an agreement and set a toll rate in the event
5 that the tolling authorities are unable to agree upon a toll rate.

6 (b) Any agreement that does not contain the provisions required in
7 (a) of this subsection is neither binding nor enforceable.

8 (2) Any agreement between the tolling authority and the Oregon
9 state transportation commission made pursuant to this section takes
10 effect, and is not binding and enforceable until, thirty days after
11 adjournment of the next ensuing regular legislative session. If the
12 tolling authority has not entered into an agreement with the Oregon
13 state transportation commission by December 31, 2015, this section
14 expires.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act applies to any agreement reached
16 pursuant to RCW 47.56.892 regardless of when the agreement was
17 initially signed by both parties. To this extent, this act applies
18 retroactively, but in all other respects it applies prospectively.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act is necessary for the immediate
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
21 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
22 immediately.

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