
SENATE BILL 6675

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe and Litzow

Read first time 03/04/16. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to a joint transportation committee study on the
2 Interstate 405 express toll lanes; creating a new section; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
6 implementation of the Interstate 405 express toll lanes has had
7 adverse impacts on some drivers in the corridor and that efforts
8 should be taken to mitigate these unintended consequences. Therefore,
9 the joint transportation committee must conduct a study on the
10 implementation of the Interstate 405 express toll lanes and identify
11 potential improvements.

12 (2) The joint transportation committee must also convene a
13 stakeholder group to provide input on the study and conduct a review
14 of the findings of the study. The stakeholder group must include
15 representatives from the trucking industry, regional business
16 communities, regional and local governments, transit advocates,
17 commuters, the Washington state transportation commission, and the
18 Washington state department of transportation.

19 (3) The study must include, but is not limited to, a review of
20 the following topics:

1 (a) Eliminating the requirement to use a flex pass when operating
2 a vehicle in the express toll lanes, including an analysis of
3 alternative methods of tracking vehicles and collecting toll fees and
4 the potential benefits and consequences of each alternative;

5 (b) Allowing two-person carpools at all times in areas of the
6 corridor where there are express toll lanes. This portion of the
7 study must also include:

8 (i) The impact of reducing the occupancy requirement on average
9 travel times and speeds for all vehicles as well as for carpools,
10 through the entire corridor and in the portion of the corridor where
11 there are express toll lanes, both in the express toll lanes and the
12 general purpose lanes;

13 (ii) The impact of reducing the occupancy requirement on the
14 number of vehicles and the number of carpools operating in the entire
15 corridor and in the portion of the corridor where there are express
16 toll lanes; and

17 (iii) The impact of reducing the occupancy requirement on
18 corridor capacity and the variable toll rate;

19 (c) The impact of providing more continuous access to express
20 toll lanes on reducing conflict points;

21 (d) The impact of a phased approach to future expansion of the
22 tolling system on toll lane implementation and commuter satisfaction;
23 and

24 (e) A survey or profile of commuters using the corridor to
25 determine how commuters use both the express toll lanes and general
26 purpose lanes. This survey or profile must include, but not be
27 limited to, socioeconomic status, trip purpose, and mode of
28 transportation.

29 (4) The joint transportation committee must submit the findings
30 of the study to the governor and the transportation committees of the
31 legislature by November 1, 2016.

32 (5) This section expires November 1, 2016.

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