
SENATE BILL 6118

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senator Wilson

Prefiled 01/05/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to the membership of the Interstate 5 Columbia
2 river bridge project joint legislative action committee; and amending
3 RCW 47.01.505.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.01.505 and 2017 c 288 s 4 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) On behalf of the state, the legislature of the state of
8 Washington invites the legislature of the state of Oregon to
9 participate in a joint legislative action committee regarding the
10 construction of a new Interstate 5 bridge spanning the Columbia river
11 that achieves the following purposes:

12 (a) Works with both states' departments of transportation and
13 transportation commissions and stakeholders to begin a process toward
14 project development. It is assumed that the appropriate local and
15 bistate entities already tasked with related work will also be
16 included when the legislative and interagency agreements are ready to
17 move forward. The legislative action committee must convene its first
18 meeting by December 15, 2017;

19 (b) Reviews and confirms lead roles related to permitting,
20 construction, operation, and maintenance of a future Interstate 5
21 bridge project;

1 (c) Establishes a process to seek public comment on the
2 Interstate 5 bridge project development plan selected and presents
3 final recommendations for the process and financing to both states;

4 (d) Works to ensure that there are sufficient resources available
5 to both states' departments of transportation to inventory and
6 utilize existing data and any prior relevant work to allow for
7 nonduplicative and efficient decision making regarding a new project;

8 (e) Examines all of the potential mass transit options available
9 for a future Interstate 5 bridge project;

10 (f) Utilizes design-build procurement, or an equivalent or better
11 innovation delivery method, and determines the least costly, most
12 efficient project management and best practices tools consistent with
13 work already completed including, but not limited to, height,
14 navigation needs, transparency, economic development, and other
15 critical elements, while minimizing the impacts of congestion during
16 construction;

17 (g) Considers the creation of a Columbia river bridge authority
18 to review bridge needs for possible repair, maintenance, or new
19 construction, prioritizing those needs and making recommendations to
20 both states with regard to financing specific projects, timing,
21 authorities, and operations; and

22 (h) Provides a report to the legislatures of each state that
23 details the findings and recommendations of the legislative action
24 committee by December 15, 2018. The report must also contain a
25 recommendation as to whether the Interstate 5 project should be
26 designated by the legislature of the state of Washington as a project
27 of statewide significance and by the state of Oregon with an
28 equivalent designation.

29 (2)(a) The joint Oregon-Washington legislative action committee
30 is established, with sixteen members as provided in this subsection:

31 (i) The speaker and minority leader of the house of
32 representatives of each state shall jointly appoint four members, two
33 from each of the two largest caucuses of their state's house of
34 representatives.

35 (ii) The majority leader and minority leader of the senate of
36 each state shall jointly appoint four members, two from each of the
37 two largest caucuses of their state's senate.

38 (b) The legislative action committee shall choose its cochairs
39 from among its membership, one each from the senate and the house of
40 representatives of both states.

1 (c) Executive agencies, including the departments of
2 transportation and the transportation commissions, shall cooperate
3 with the committee and provide information and other assistance as
4 the cochairs may reasonably request.

5 (d) Staff support for the legislative action committee must be
6 provided by the Washington house of representatives office of program
7 research, Washington senate committee services, and, contingent upon
8 the acceptance by the legislature of the state of Oregon of the
9 invitation in subsection (1) of this section to participate in the
10 legislative action committee, the Oregon legislative policy and
11 research office.

12 (e) Legislative members of the legislative action committee are
13 reimbursed for travel expenses. For Washington legislative members,
14 this reimbursement must be in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

15 (f) The expenses of the legislative action committee must be paid
16 jointly by both states' senate and house of representatives. In
17 Washington, committee expenditures are subject to approval by the
18 senate facilities and operations committee and the house of
19 representatives executive rules committee, or their successor
20 committees.

21 (g) Each meeting of the legislative action committee must allow
22 an opportunity for public comment. Legislative action committee
23 meetings must be scheduled and conducted in accordance with the
24 requirements of both the senate and the house of representatives of
25 both states.

26 (h) Until the eight members from the state of Oregon are
27 appointed by the Oregon state legislature, the membership of the
28 joint legislative action committee shall be comprised of the eight
29 members appointed by the Washington state legislature, a majority of
30 which shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of transacting
31 committee business.

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