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HOUSE BILL 1683

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State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Orwall, Dent, Stokesbary, Irwin, Pellicciotti, Reeves, and Hudgins

Read first time 01/28/19. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a state commercial aviation  
2 coordinating commission; adding a new chapter to Title 47 RCW; and  
3 providing expiration dates.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that with the  
6 increase in air traffic operations, combined with the projections for  
7 the rapid expansion of these operations in both the short and the  
8 long term, concerns regarding the environmental, health, social, and  
9 economic impacts of air traffic are increasing as well. The  
10 legislature also finds that advancing Washington's position as a  
11 national and international trading leader is dependent upon the  
12 development of a highly competitive, statewide passenger and cargo  
13 air transportation system. Therefore, the legislature seeks to  
14 identify a location for a new primary commercial aviation facility in  
15 Washington, taking into consideration the data and conclusions of  
16 appropriate air traffic studies, community representatives, and  
17 industry experts. It is the intent of the legislature to establish a  
18 state commercial aviation coordinating commission to provide a  
19 location recommendation by January 1, 2021.

1        NEW SECTION.

2        **Sec. 2.**

3        (1) The state commercial aviation  
4        coordinating commission is created to carry out the functions of this  
5        chapter. The commission shall consist of thirteen voting members.

6        (2) The governor shall appoint nine voting members to represent  
7        the following interests:

8        (a) Four as representatives of the ports, one of whom shall  
9        represent a port located in a county with a population of two million  
10       or more and one representing an association of ports;

11       (b) Three as representatives from the airline industry and the  
12       private sector;

13       (c) A representative from an eastern Washington metropolitan  
14       planning organization; and

15       (d) A representative from a western Washington metropolitan  
16       planning organization.

17       (3) The remaining four members shall consist of:

18       (a) A representative from the department of commerce;

19       (b) A representative from the division of aeronautics of the  
20       department of transportation;

21       (c) The governor or the governor's designee; and

22       (d) A representative from the freight mobility investment board.

23       (4) A representative of the federal aviation administration and a  
24       representative of the Washington state aviation alliance shall serve  
25       as nonvoting members.

26       (5) The governor may appoint additional nonvoting members as  
27       deemed appropriate.

28       (6) The commission shall select a chair from among its membership  
29       and shall adopt rules related to its powers and duties under this  
30       chapter.

31       (7) Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for  
32       travel expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on  
33       behalf of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization.  
34       Any reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to  
35       chapter 43.03 RCW. The commission has all powers necessary to carry  
36       out its duties as prescribed by this chapter.

37       (8) The department of transportation shall provide staff support  
38       for coordinating and administering the commission and technical  
39       assistance as requested by commission members.

40       (9) The governor or the governor's designee shall convene the  
initial meeting of the commission as soon as practicable.

(10) This section expires July 1, 2021.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 3.**        (1) The state commercial aviation  
2 coordinating commission shall review existing data and conduct  
3 research as needed to determine Washington's long-range commercial  
4 aviation facility needs and the site of a new commercial aviation  
5 facility. The work of the commission shall include, but is not  
6 limited to, the following:

7        (a) Recommendations to the legislature on future Washington state  
8 long-range commercial aviation facility needs;

9        (b) Identifying a preferred location for a new commercial  
10 aviation facility. The commission shall make recommendations and  
11 shall select a single preferred location by simple majority vote  
12 using the following process:

13        (i) Initiating a broad review of potential sites;

14        (ii) Recommending a final short list of no more than six  
15 locations by January 1, 2020;

16        (iii) Identifying the top two locations from the final six  
17 locations by September 1, 2020; and

18        (iv) Identifying a single preferred location for a new commercial  
19 aviation facility by January 1, 2021.

20        (2) The commission shall submit findings and recommendations to  
21 the transportation commissions of the legislature by January 1, 2021.

22        (3) This section expires July 1, 2021.

23        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 4.**        The state commercial aviation coordinating  
24 commission shall project a timeline for the development of an  
25 additional commercial aviation facility that is completed and  
26 functional by 2040.

27        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 5.**        Sections 1 through 4 of this act  
28 constitute a new chapter in Title 47 RCW.

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