
HOUSE BILL 2285

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives McCaslin, Thai, Goehner, Barkis, Griffey, Dufault, Van Werven, Volz, Corry, and Young

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1 AN ACT Relating to elevating road maintenance and preservation in
2 transportation planning; amending RCW 47.04.280; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the road system
6 in Washington state includes more than one hundred sixty-seven
7 thousand lane miles and more than three thousand three hundred state-
8 owned bridges that require maintenance, preservation, and replacement
9 for the transportation network to continue to function. It is a
10 priority for the people and the public good for the transportation
11 system to be in a state of good repair. In the 2019 transportation
12 asset management plan, the department of transportation proclaimed a
13 critical need for additional funding to maintain the existing assets
14 on the transportation network. The legislature acknowledges the
15 critical need for resilience and preservation of the existing system,
16 and intends the transportation public policy of this state to embody
17 that public priority.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 47.04.280 and 2016 c 35 s 3 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

1 (1) It is the intent of the legislature to establish policy goals
2 for the planning, operation, performance of, and investment in, the
3 state's transportation system. (~~The policy goals established under~~
4 ~~this section are deemed consistent with the benchmark categories~~
5 ~~adopted by the state's blue ribbon commission on transportation on~~
6 ~~November 30, 2000.~~) Public investments in transportation should
7 support achievement of these policy goals:

8 ~~(a) ((Economic vitality: To promote and develop transportation~~
9 ~~systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people~~
10 ~~and goods to ensure a prosperous economy;~~

11 ~~(b))~~ Preservation: To maintain, preserve, and extend the life
12 and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and
13 services;

14 ~~((c))~~ (b) Safety: To provide for and improve the safety and
15 security of transportation customers and the transportation system;

16 (c) Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality,
17 effectiveness, resilience, and efficiency of the transportation
18 system;

19 (d) Mobility: To improve the predictable movement of goods and
20 people throughout Washington state, including congestion relief and
21 improved freight mobility;

22 (e) Economic vitality: To promote and develop transportation
23 systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people
24 and goods to ensure a prosperous economy; and

25 (f) Environment: To enhance Washington's quality of life through
26 transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance
27 healthy communities, and protect the environment(;~~and~~

28 ~~(f) Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality,~~
29 ~~effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system)).~~

30 (2) The powers, duties, and functions of state transportation
31 agencies must be performed in a manner consistent with the policy
32 goals set forth in subsection (1) of this section with preservation
33 and safety being the preeminent priority.

34 (3) These policy goals are intended to be the basis for
35 establishing detailed and measurable objectives and related
36 performance measures.

37 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that the office of
38 financial management, in consultation with the transportation
39 commission, establish objectives and performance measures for the
40 department and other state agencies with transportation-related

1 responsibilities to ensure transportation system performance at
2 local, regional, and state government levels progresses toward the
3 attainment of the policy goals set forth in subsection (1) of this
4 section. The office of financial management shall submit objectives
5 and performance measures to the legislature for its review and shall
6 provide copies of the same to the commission during each regular
7 session of the legislature during an even-numbered year thereafter.
8 For the 2022 legislative session, the executive branch is encouraged
9 to establish objectives and plan in furtherance of reducing the
10 preservation and replacement backlog in the transportation system.

11 (5) A local or regional agency engaging in transportation
12 planning may voluntarily establish objectives and performance
13 measures to demonstrate progress toward the attainment of the policy
14 goals set forth in subsection (1) of this section or any other
15 transportation policy goals established by the local or regional
16 agency. A local or regional agency engaging in transportation
17 planning is encouraged to provide local and regional objectives and
18 performance measures to be included with the objectives and
19 performance measures submitted to the legislature pursuant to
20 subsection (4) of this section.

21 (6) This section does not create a private right of action.

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