

SHB 1833 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Transportation

NOT CONSIDERED 05/17/2023

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 47.60.315 and 2021 c 333 s 716 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The commission shall adopt fares and pricing policies by
6 rule, under chapter 34.05 RCW, according to the following schedule:

7 (a) Each year the department shall provide the commission a
8 report of its review of fares and pricing policies, with
9 recommendations for the revision of fares and pricing policies for
10 the ensuing year;

11 (b) By September 1st of each year, beginning in 2008, the
12 commission shall adopt by rule fares and pricing policies for the
13 ensuing year.

14 (2) The commission may adopt by rule fares that are effective for
15 more or less than one year for the purposes of transitioning to the
16 fare schedule in subsection (1) of this section.

17 (3) The commission may increase ferry fares included in the
18 schedule of charges adopted under this section by a percentage that
19 exceeds the fiscal growth factor.

20 (4) The chief executive officer of the ferry system may authorize
21 the use of promotional, discounted, and special event fares to the
22 general public and commercial enterprises for the purpose of
23 maximizing capacity use and the revenues collected by the ferry
24 system. The department shall report to the commission a summary of
25 the promotional, discounted, and special event fares offered during
26 each fiscal year and the financial results from these activities.

27 (5) Fare revenues and other revenues deposited in the Puget Sound
28 ferry operations account created in RCW 47.60.530 may not be used to
29 support the Puget Sound capital construction account created in RCW
30 47.60.505, unless the support for capital is separately identified in
31 the fare or except as provided in section 715, chapter 333, Laws of
32 2021 during the 2021-2023 biennium.

1 (6) The commission may not raise fares until the fare rules
2 contain pricing policies developed under RCW 47.60.290, or September
3 1, 2009, whichever is later.

4 (7) The commission shall impose a vessel replacement surcharge of
5 (~~twenty-five~~) 25 cents on every one-way and round-trip ferry fare
6 sold, including multiride and monthly pass fares. This surcharge must
7 be clearly indicated to ferry passengers and drivers and, if
8 possible, on the fare media itself.

9 (8) Except as provided in subsection (10) of this section,
10 beginning May 1, 2020, the commission shall impose an additional
11 vessel replacement surcharge in an amount sufficient to fund
12 (~~twenty-five~~) 25 year debt service on one 144-auto hybrid vessel
13 taking into account funds provided in chapter 417, Laws of 2019 or
14 chapter . . . (SSB 5419), Laws of 2019. The department of
15 transportation shall provide to the commission vessel and debt
16 service cost estimates. Information on vessels constructed or
17 purchased with revenue from the surcharges must be publicly posted
18 including, but not limited to, the commission website.

19 (9) The vessel replacement surcharges imposed in this section may
20 only be used for the construction or purchase of ferry vessels and to
21 pay the principal and interest on bonds authorized for the
22 construction or purchase of new ferry vessels.

23 (10) The commission shall not impose the additional vessel
24 replacement surcharge in subsection (8) of this section if doing so
25 would increase fares by more than (~~ten~~) 10 percent.

26 (11)(a) During the annual legislative appropriations
27 deliberations, the legislature reviews and approves funding for the
28 cost of ferry fuel, as estimated based on the most current forecasts
29 of fuel prices and gallons of fuel that will be consumed to provide
30 ferry service. The commission may impose a fuel surcharge if not
31 enough fuel funding was provided in the enacted omnibus
32 transportation appropriations act, but the surcharge may not go into
33 effect until after the ensuing regular legislative session.

34 (b) If a fuel surcharge is imposed, as authorized under this
35 subsection, the commission must reevaluate the need for the surcharge
36 on at least a quarterly basis to determine if the surcharge is still
37 needed to cover increased fuel costs and revoke the surcharge if the
38 determination is that the surcharge is no longer needed for this
39 purpose.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
3 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
4 effect immediately."

SHB 1833 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Transportation

NOT CONSIDERED 05/17/2023

5 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "surcharges;" strike the
6 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 47.60.315; and
7 declaring an emergency."

EFFECT: Allows the Commission to enact a surcharge if not enough
funding is provided for fuel in an enacted budget, but the surcharge
would not be imposed until after the ensuing legislative session.

--- END ---