

CHAPTER 78.

[H. B. 386.]

BRIDGING OF PUGET SOUND INCLUDING
HOOD CANAL.

AN ACT relating to the Washington toll bridge authority, making appropriation for the study and bridging of Puget Sound, including Hood Canal, and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. For the biennium ending March 31, 1955, there is appropriated to the Washington toll bridge authority from the motor vehicle fund the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as thereafter may be necessary for the following purposes:

(a) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the appropriation shall be available for further study, including traffic surveys acceptable to prospective bond purchasers or investment firms, securing necessary permits for the bridging of Puget Sound, including Hood Canal, as more specifically set forth in the printed report of the Washington toll bridge authority to the governor and the legislature dated December 1, 1952, and entitled "Bridging Puget Sound": *Provided*, That any such study shall be directed to the bridging of Puget Sound and as well the bridging of Hood Canal or to the bridging of both and shall not be applied to either of the said subjects to the exclusion of the other: *Provided further*, That four hundred fifty thousand dollars from the appropriation, or such additional funds which have not been expended, shall lapse and revert to the motor vehicle fund in the event that the authority determines that neither of the projects is feasible.

(b) If a project is deemed feasible by the authority as an integral part of the state highway system and has been approved by the highway commission, the authority shall enter into final design plans, and

Revenue bonds.

construction thereof, issue revenue bonds to pay all costs of the project and let contracts in connection with the proposed project. Such revenue bonds shall be issued in accordance with the applicable provisions of RCW 47.56.080, and in addition to the purposes above stated may be issued to provide funds for paying all costs of issuance and sale of such bonds, to pay interest on said bonds during construction and for six months thereafter, and to pay and redeem all outstanding ferry bonds of the authority theretofore issued for operation of ferries upon Puget Sound.

Costs of operation and maintenance.

SEC. 2. All operation and maintenance on any project while tolls are collected thereon shall be paid as they are incurred as a prior charge upon the revenue and tolls collected upon such project. Any funds herein appropriated from the motor vehicle fund to the Washington toll bridge authority, together with the sum of two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars heretofore appropriated by section 19, chapter 259, Laws of 1951, shall be considered as a loan and repaid by the authority to the motor vehicle fund upon the sale of bonds of any project.

Appropriation deemed loan.

Emergency.

SEC. 3. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety, support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 23, 1953.

Passed the Senate March 3, 1953.

Approved by the Governor March 6, 1953.