

CHAPTER 51

[Substitute House Bill No. 427]

COUNTY OPERATED FERRIES—FISCAL SUPPORT

AN ACT Relating to county operated ferries; amending section 46.68.100, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 1, chapter 57, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 46.68.100; amending section 1, chapter 21, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 2, chapter 57, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 47.56.725; declaring an emergency; and providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 46.68.100, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 1, chapter 57, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 46.68.100 are each amended to read as follows:

From the net tax amount in the motor vehicle fund there shall be paid sums as follows:

(1) There shall be paid to the cities and towns of the state sums equal to ten and forty-four hundredths percent of the net tax amount to be paid monthly as the same accrues;

(2) To the counties of the state there shall be paid sums equal to thirty-two and sixty-one hundredths percent of the net tax amount out of which there shall be ~~((paid to the state highway commission those sums as may be appropriated for assistance to county operated ferries, as provided in RCW 47.56.725, at such times as shall be determined by the commission))~~ distributed from time to time, as directed by the highway commission, those sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of RCW 47.56.725 as now or hereafter amended, with the balance of such county share to be ((paid)) distributed monthly as the same accrues for distribution in accordance with RCW 46.68.120;

(3) To the state there shall be paid to be expended as provided by RCW 46.68.130, sums equal to fifty-five and five-tenths percent of the net tax amount to be paid monthly as the same accrues.

(4) There shall be paid to the Puget Sound ferry operations account sums equal to one and forty-five hundredths percent of the net tax amount to be paid monthly as the same accrues.

Nothing in this section or in RCW 46.68.090 or 46.68.130 shall be construed so as to violate any terms or conditions contained in any highway construction bond issues now or hereafter authorized by statute and whose payment is by such statute pledged to be paid from any excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels.

Sec. 2. Section 1, chapter 21, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 2, chapter 57, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 47.56.725 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The Washington state highway commission is hereby authorized to enter into a continuing agreement with Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties pursuant to which the state highway commission shall ~~((pay)), from time to time, direct the distribution to each of the counties ((from moneys appropriated for such purpose))~~ the amounts authorized in subsection (2) of this section in accordance with RCW 46.68.100 as now or hereafter amended.

(2) The Washington state highway commission is authorized to include in each such continuing agreement a provision for the distribution to each such county funds to reimburse the county for fifty percent of the deficit incurred during each previous fiscal year in the operation and maintenance of the ferry system owned and operated by such county, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976: PROVIDED, That the total amount to be reimbursed to Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties collectively shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars in any biennium: PROVIDED FURTHER, That each county agreement shall contain a requirement that the county shall maintain tolls on its ferries at levels sufficient to produce aggregate annual revenues at least equal to the annual revenue of the county's ferry system in calendar year 1975.

(3) The annual fiscal year deficit, if any, shall be determined by Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties subject to review and approval of the Washington state highway commission. The annual fiscal year deficit is defined as the total of operations and maintenance expenditures less the sum of ferry toll revenues and that portion of fuel tax revenue distributions which are attributable to the county ferry as determined by the Washington state highway commission. ~~((Payments))~~ Distribution of the amounts authorized by subsection (2) of this section by the state treasurer shall be ~~((made))~~ directed by the Washington state highway commission upon the receipt of properly executed vouchers from each county.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. This 1977 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect on July 1, 1977.

Passed the House February 22, 1977.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1977.

Approved by the Governor March 25, 1977.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 25, 1977.

CHAPTER 52

[House Bill No. 585]

STATE COLLEGES—TREASURER, APPOINTMENT, BOND

AN ACT Relating to the state colleges; and adding a new section to chapter 223, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and to chapter 28B.40 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 223, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and to chapter 28B.40 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Each board of state college trustees shall appoint a treasurer who shall be the financial officer of the board and who shall hold office during the pleasure of the board. Each treasurer shall render a true and faithful account of all moneys received and paid out by him, and shall give bond for the faithful performance of the