

After the effective date of this 1975 amendatory act, no additional urban arterial trust funds shall be expended for conceptual or feasibility studies of any project initially authorized prior to June 30, 1969 in a city of over 300,000 population, but such limitation shall not apply to the cost of preparing final plans, specifications and estimates or other contract documents required to advertise the project for competitive bids for its construction.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This 1975 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 immediately.

Passed the House June 8, 1975.

Passed the Senate June 7, 1975.

Approved by the Governor June 30, 1975.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State June 30, 1975.

CHAPTER 268

[Substitute House Bill No. 860]

LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

AN ACT Relating to transportation studies; amending section 36, chapter 3, Laws of 1963 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.020; amending section 39, chapter 3, Laws of 1963 ex. sess. as amended by section 4, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.040; amending section 3, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.100; amending section 4, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 1, chapter 2, Laws of 1975 and RCW 44.40.110; adding new sections to chapter 44.40 RCW; creating new sections; repealing section 8, chapter 85, Laws of 1970 ex. sess., section 18, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.026; repealing section 19, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.060; repealing section 5, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); repealing section 6, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); and repealing section 7, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); making appropriations; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 36, chapter 3, Laws of 1963 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The committee is authorized and directed to continue its studies and for that purpose shall have the powers set forth in chapter 111, Laws of 1947. The committee is further authorized to make studies related to bills assigned to the house and senate transportation and utilities committees and such other studies as provided by law. The executive committee of the committee may assign responsibility for all or part of the conduct of studies to the house and/or senate transportation and utilities committees.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 44.40 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The house and senate transportation and utilities committees shall periodically review the six-year comprehensive plans submitted by cities and counties for expenditures for bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian facilities prepared pursuant to chapter ____ (Senate Bill No. 2348), Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess.

Sec. 3. Section 39, chapter 3, Laws of 1963 ex. sess. as amended by section 4, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.040 are each amended to read as follows:

The members of the legislative transportation committee and the house and senate transportation and utilities committees shall receive allowances while attending meetings of the committees or subcommittees and while engaged in other authorized business of the committees as provided in RCW 44.04.120. All expenses incurred by the committee, and the house and senate transportation and utilities committees, including salaries of employees of the legislative transportation committee, shall be paid upon voucher forms as provided by the office of program planning and fiscal management and signed by the chairman or vice chairman or authorized designee of the chairman of the committee (~~and attested by the secretary of the committee~~), and the authority of said chairman or vice chairman (~~and secretary~~) to sign vouchers shall continue until their successors are selected. Vouchers may be drawn upon funds appropriated for the expenses of the committee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The legislative transportation committee is authorized to conduct the following studies and such other related studies as it deems appropriate, may employ consultants, and shall report findings and recommendations, as appropriate, to the legislature during or prior to the 1977 regular legislative session:

(1) A comprehensive review of state and national needs studies, and of state, urban arterial, and other functional classification of highways, streets, and roads for the purpose of evaluating the consolidation of needs studies and functional classification systems. The studies shall make use of previous applicable studies and shall make a progress report of findings and recommendations of said evaluation plus a defined scope of work to implement changes required to make the consolidation, if such consolidation is deemed appropriate, to the 1976 legislative session;

(2) Reevaluation of the necessity for state regulation of common and contract carriers, log carriers, dump truck operators, and agricultural product carriers;

(3) Establishing and assisting in the planning, programming, and implementation of an intermodal transportation center which would utilize existing structures on the national register of historic buildings or appropriate alternatives, including, but not limited to, the development of master site plans and building programs and necessary studies which would enhance the interrelationship of all transportation needs and modes;

(4) Alternatives to comply with vehicle safety inspection requirements and vehicle emission standards, taking into consideration cost effectiveness, correlation with accidents caused by mechanical failure, health hazards inherent in vehicle exhaust, and federal penalties for noncompliance;

(5) Determination of the extent of use fuel tax evasion and alternative methods in addition to dye marking to avoid such evasion;

(6) Review of federal and state laws relative to regulation of mobile homes, specifically in relation to consumer protection, and consideration combining such regulations and administration into a single agency;

(7) In cooperation with the department of motor vehicles and the department of revenue analyze alternative methods of determining fair market values and depreciation schedules as an equitable basis for determining vehicle excise tax. Recommendations for changes as appropriate should be submitted to the 1976 legislative session;

(8) In cooperation with the trident transportation regional technical advisory committee evaluate the impact of the trident development upon transportation and related facilities and services in Kitsap and adjacent counties;

(9) As part of size and weight fee schedule alternatives to be developed in conjunction with the transportation tax study include necessary statutory revisions to reflect changes in federal truck size and weight regulations, a draft of said alternatives to be prepared for consideration at the next reconvening of the forty-fourth legislative session following August 31, 1975;

(10) In cooperation with the department of highways conduct an extension study of the Horn Rapids road from Kiona to Richland via Benton City, taking into consideration seasonal traffic variations;

(11) Evaluate the international registration plan for commercial interstate vehicles with respect to its applicability to the state of Washington;

(12) The interrelationship of highway and railroad facilities with respect to the potential of shifting automobile and passenger traffic to rail facilities for the purpose of decreasing the demands for highway facilities, including inventory of existing railroad facilities for future potential and preliminary feasibility of contracting with Amtrak for intrastate service;

(13) Adequacy and effectiveness of traffic and regulatory fines and penalties as deterrents to repeated offenses;

(14) Design project to demonstrate the application of economic pricing as a means of making more efficient use of highways;

(15) A comprehensive review and analysis of alternative means of funding the installation of emergency traffic lights at fire district stations;

(16) A comprehensive review of provisions of the pilotage act;

(17) Review of respective roles of the Washington utilities and transportation commission and the department of labor and industries with respect to railroad safety regulations;

(18) Impact of elimination of on-street parking on state-numbered routes upon construction needs, traffic flow, and safety;

(19) A comprehensive analysis of traffic patterns and services exemplified by the state ferry system, taking into consideration previous studies and patron interests, and with the intent of determining methods for encouraging more nonpeak usage and federal urban mass transportation support for programs aimed at increasing passenger usage;

(20) A comprehensive review and evaluation of the Washington habitual traffic offender's act;

(21) A review and analysis of the interrelationship of state and federal laws and regulations with respect to administrating federal programs within the state, including but not limited to laws affecting right-of-way and environmental protection, considering alternatives of decentralization of administration and supervision to the state;

(22) Analysis of objectives and goals, criteria to determine manpower levels, and relationships of alternative manpower levels to output and service level indicators of the State Patrol;

(23) An update review of needs, programs, and funding relative to railroad grade crossing protection;

(24) In cooperation with the department of highways review the landscaping practices along state highways;

(25) A review of driver licensing procedures, in general, and the feasibility of lengthening the license period taking into consideration safety, administrative costs, and revenue flow;

(26) A comprehensive review and evaluation of rest stops and their management on the state's interstate system with respect to the adequacy of facilities provided to users and including the desirability of demonstration projects for the alternative treatment and handling of solid wastes in an economical and ecologically efficient manner;

(27) In cooperation with the Washington state highway commission, develop and evaluate short and long-range alternative plans for implementation of a passenger-only ferry service as a major component of the total cross-Sound ferry system. The combined system shall provide a water transportation system integrated with existing and future land transportation systems.

Consideration during the development and evaluation of alternative plans shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

(a) Passenger-only vessels ranging from conventional displacement vessels to sophisticated advance marine systems craft;

(b) The impact of passenger-only vessels on assignment of existing vehicular vessels and the impact on future vehicular vessel needs;

(c) An analysis to identify and determine the financial impact of new markets that can be served by passenger-only vessels;

(d) Relative economic impact on the state and region, the ferry patrons, and the residents of the areas served by the ferry system;

(e) The cost of construction and a time schedule for implementing a combined system;

(f) Fixed facilities for the accommodation and movement of foot passengers including parking lots and landing facilities for the vessels;

(g) Impact of the short and long-range alternative plans on existing and future land transportation systems;

(h) Short and long-term financial impact on the operations and capital improvements of the existing system;

(i) Identification of alternative funding sources and methods of financing construction, operation, and maintenance of a combined system including revenue bonds, contribution from the motor vehicle fund and federal-aid assistance;

(j) Public involvement;

(k) New or relocation of terminals and ferry routes;

(l) Restrictions and limitations imposed upon the ferry system by existing federal and state statutes and the governing bond resolution;

(m) Utilization of all existing surveys, reports, and data available concerning cross-Sound transportation.

A final report incorporating the findings and recommendations of the legislative transportation committee and the state highway commission shall be accomplished by December 1, 1975, and presented to the next session of the legislature.

(28) A review of policies relative to providing reasonably safe bicycle traveling facilities adjacent to or in conjunction with public highways, in general, and on bridges and structures, in particular.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. There is added to chapter 44.40 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The senate and house transportation and utilities committees and the department of highways are authorized to conduct the following studies and to employ the services of consultants as deemed necessary:

(1) Develop policies and guidelines for biennial state highway commission review of highways with respect to whether sections should be added to or deleted from the state highway system. Said study shall include reevaluation of all designated routes, whether or not constructed with recommendations on specific routes whose statutory designation as state routes should be reaffirmed;

(2) In conjunction with the department of motor vehicles, the Washington state patrol, and political subdivisions, develop procedures and systems to collect and more effectively utilize comprehensive mileage, weight, and weight control enforcement information as bases for design, cost allocation determination, enforcement, and other appropriate purposes;

(3) In cooperation with appropriate agencies, evaluate studies conducted by other states, the federal government, other countries, and industry, for the purpose of identifying potentially effective techniques to increase vehicle occupancy of the traveling public in general, and of state employees in particular. Design and implement a demonstration project, as appropriate.

There is hereby appropriated from the motor vehicle fund the sum of five hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Recommendations and/or legislation, as appropriate, shall be submitted to the legislature and/or agencies.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. There is added to chapter 44.40 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The senate and house transportation and utilities committees are authorized to undertake a study of third level air carrier regulations including, but not limited to the following items: Route certification, guaranteed levels of service, air fare standardization, and total taxing structure.

There is hereby appropriated from the aeronautics account of the general fund for the biennium ending June 30, 1977, the sum of five thousand dollars for the purposes of this section. Recommendations and legislation, as appropriate, shall be made to the legislature.

Sec. 7. Section 3, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.100 are each amended to read as follows:

The legislative transportation committee and/or the senate and house transportation and utilities committees may enter into contracts on behalf of the state to carry out the purposes of this ~~((1973))~~ 1975 act and chapter 44.40 RCW; and it or they may act for the state in the initiation of or participation in any

multigovernmental program relative to transportation planning or programming; and it or they may enter into contracts to receive federal or other funds, grants, or gifts to carry out said purposes and to be used in preference to or in combination with state funds. When federal or other funds are received, they shall be deposited with the state treasurer and thereafter expended only upon approval by the committee or committees.

Sec. 8. Section 4, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 1, chapter 2, Laws of 1975 and RCW 44.40.110 are each amended to read as follows:

The senate and house transportation and utilities committees are authorized to undertake a review of the total taxing structure for transportation programs and activities including:

(1) Alternative methods of taxing fuels and establishing license and road use fees;

(2) And the equity of the taxing structure, including but not limited to motor vehicle tonnage and excise taxes, between various classes of vehicles and users.

Said study shall be divided into two phases, a preliminary phase for the purpose of specifically defining the scope and guidelines of the study, and the major study phase for the conduct of the detailed study work.

The committees are authorized to employ a consultant to conduct the study and cooperate with state and federal government agencies in the conduct of said study.

The findings and recommendations of the study shall be submitted to the legislature prior to June 30, ~~((1975))~~ 1977.

There is hereby ~~((appropriated))~~ reappropriated from the motor vehicle fund the sum of ~~((five hundred))~~ two hundred fifty thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary to conduct the study as originally authorized by section 4, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.: PROVIDED, That no expenditure authorized by this section shall exceed the unexpended balance of the original appropriation as of June 30, 1975. ~~((The committees are directed to seek federal participation and are authorized to receive federal funds for said purpose.))~~

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) Section 8, chapter 85, Laws of 1970 ex. sess., section 18, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.026;

(2) Section 19, chapter 195, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 44.40.060;

(3) Section 5, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified);

(4) Section 6, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); and

(5) Section 7, chapter 210, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. (uncodified).

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. This 1975 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 immediately.

Passed the House June 7, 1975.

Passed the Senate June 6, 1975.

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