CHAPTER 343

[Substitute House Bill No. 711] SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COSTS

AN ACT Relating to school transportation costs; and amending section 28A.41.160, chapter 223, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. as last amended by section 6, chapter 359, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. and RCW 28A.41.160.

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

Section 1. Section 28A.41.160, chapter 223, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. as last amended by section 6, chapter 359, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. and RCW 28A.41.160 are each amended to read as follows:

Reimbursement for transportation costs shall be in addition to the basic education allocation. Transportation costs shall be reimbursed as follows:

(1) School districts shall be reimbursed up to one hundred percent of the operational costs for established bus routes for the transportation of students to and from common schools as recommended by the educational service district superintendent or his or her designee, and as approved by the state superintendent: PROVIDED, That commencing with the 1980-81 school year, reimbursement shall be at one hundred percent or as close thereto as reasonably possible: PROVIDED FURTHER, That commencing on September 1, 1982, no school district shall be reimbursed under this section for any portion of the cost to transport any student, except handicapped children as defined under RCW 28A.13.010, as now or hereafter amended, to or from any school other than one which is geographically located nearest or next-nearest to the student's place of residence within the district offering the appropriate grade level, course of study, or special academic program as designated by the local school board: PROVIDED FUR-THER, That notwithstanding the provisions of section 94 of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 3636, any moneys not reimbursed to a school district for transportation costs pursuant to this subsection shall be allocated to the school district for block grants under section 100 of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 3636: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the superintendent of public instruction, when so requested by the appropriate educational service district superintendent or his or her designee, may waive the requirements of this 1981 provision, if natural geographic boundaries or safety factors would make this provision unworkable and/or more costly to the district or to the state; and

(2) Costs of acquisition of approved transportation equipment shall be reimbursed up to one hundred percent of the cost to be reimbursed over the anticipated life of the vehicle, as determined by the state superintendent: PROVIDED, That commencing with the 1980-81 school year, reimbursement shall be at one hundred percent or as close thereto as reasonably possible: PROVIDED FURTHER, That reimbursements for the acquisition of approved transportation equipment received by school districts shall be held within the general fund exclusively for the future purchase of approved transportation equipment and for major transportation equipment repairs consistent with rules and regulations authorized and promulgated under RCW 28A.41.170 and chapter 28A.65 RCW.

Passed the House April 24, 1981.

Passed the Senate April 22, 1981.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1981, without the Governor's signature.

CHAPTER 344

[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 3359] STATE FERRY SYSTEM EMPLOYMENT—APPROPRIATION

AN ACT Relating to the ferry system; amending section 5, chapter 39, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. as last amended by section 55, chapter 151, Laws of 1979 and RCW 41.05.050; amending section 47.64.010, chapter 13, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 33, chapter 296, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.64.010; adding a new section to chapter 41.06 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 47.60 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 47.64 RCW; repealing section 8, chapter 24, Laws of 1972 ex. sess. and RCW 47.60.325; repealing section 47.64.030, chapter 13, Laws of 1961, section 34, chapter 296, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.64.030; prescribing penalties; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 47.64.010, chapter 13, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 33, chapter 296, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.64.010 are each amended to read as follows:

Words and phrases used in this chapter shall have the meaning in this chapter ascribed to them except where, from the context thereof, they shall clearly have a contrary meaning:

(1) (("Washington toll bridge authority" and "authority," "toll bridge authority" shall be used herein interchangeably and shall)) <u>"Department"</u> means the Washington ((toll bridge authority)) <u>department of transporta-</u> tion as now, or as hereafter constituted by law, or such board, commission, authority, or officers as shall succeed to its duties;

(2) "Commission" means public employment relations commission;

(3) "Ferry" ((shall)) means any ferry, ferry system, wharves, or terminals constructed or acquired under the authority of the Washington ((toll bridge authority)) department of transportation;

(4) "Employee" ((shall)) means any person employed aboard ferries, wharves, or terminals acquired or constructed under the authority of the Washington ((toll bridge authority)) department of transportation.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 47.64 RCW a new section to read as follows: