
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1842

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Farrell, Hargrove, Fey, Harmsworth, Senn, Wylie, Gregerson, Robinson, Walkinshaw, Zeiger, Fitzgibbon, Moscoso, Tarleton, and Clibborn)

1 AN ACT Relating to improving transit agency coordination;
2 amending RCW 35.58.2796 and 47.66.030; creating a new section; and
3 providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The central Puget Sound is projected to
6 grow considerably, in both population and jobs, over the course of
7 the next several decades. It is thus critical that all its
8 transportation infrastructure be well planned and coordinated,
9 including its transit systems. It is the intent of the legislature to
10 encourage this planning and coordination on the part of central Puget
11 Sound transit systems in order to improve the user experience,
12 increase ridership, and make the most effective use of tax dollars.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.58.2796 and 2011 c 371 s 2 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1)(a) The department of transportation shall develop an annual
16 report summarizing the status of public transportation systems in the
17 state for the previous calendar year. By December 1st of each year,
18 the report must be made available to the transportation committees of
19 the legislature and to each municipality, as defined in RCW

1 35.58.272, and to individual members of the municipality's
2 legislative authority.

3 ~~((2))~~ (b) To assist the department with preparation of the
4 report, each municipality shall file a system report by September 1st
5 of each year with the state department of transportation identifying
6 its public transportation services for the previous calendar year and
7 its objectives for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of
8 those services. The system report shall address those items required
9 for each public transportation system in the department's report.

10 ~~((3))~~ (c) The department report shall describe individual
11 public transportation systems, including contracted transportation
12 services and dial-a-ride services, and include a statewide summary of
13 public transportation issues and data. The descriptions shall include
14 the following elements and such other elements as the department
15 deems appropriate after consultation with the municipalities and the
16 transportation committees of the legislature:

17 ~~((a))~~ (i) Equipment and facilities, including vehicle
18 replacement standards;

19 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Services and service standards;

20 ~~((c))~~ (iii) Revenues, expenses, and ending balances, by fund
21 source;

22 ~~((d))~~ (iv) Policy issues and system improvement objectives,
23 including community participation in development of those objectives
24 and how those objectives address statewide transportation priorities;

25 ~~((e))~~ (v) Operating indicators applied to public transportation
26 services, revenues, and expenses. Operating indicators shall include
27 operating cost per passenger trip, operating cost per revenue vehicle
28 service hour, passenger trips per revenue service hour, passenger
29 trips per vehicle service mile, vehicle service hours per employee,
30 and farebox revenue as a percent of operating costs.

31 ~~((4))~~ (d) To the extent that information is available, the
32 department report must include descriptive information on any other
33 modes of public transportation, the impact of public transportation
34 on transportation system performance, and how public transportation
35 helps the state meet the transportation system policy goals described
36 in RCW 47.04.280.

37 (2)(a) The department of transportation shall develop an annual
38 report summarizing the status of public transportation system
39 coordination in and between counties with a population of seven
40 hundred thousand or more that border Puget Sound for the previous

1 calendar year. By December 1st of each year, the report must be made
2 available to the transportation committees of the legislature and to
3 each municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, located in a county
4 with a population of seven hundred thousand or more that borders
5 Puget Sound and to individual members of the municipality's
6 legislative authority.

7 (b) To assist the department with preparation of the report
8 required under this subsection, each municipality, as defined in RCW
9 35.58.272, located in a county with a population of seven hundred
10 thousand or more that borders Puget Sound shall file a report by
11 September 1st of each year with the department identifying its
12 coordination efforts in the previous calendar year with other
13 municipalities, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, located in counties with
14 a population of seven hundred thousand or more that border Puget
15 Sound in the following areas:

- 16 (i) Integrating marketing efforts;
17 (ii) Aligning fare structures;
18 (iii) Integrating service planning;
19 (iv) Coordinating long-range planning, including capital projects
20 planning and implementation;
21 (v) Integrating other administrative functions and internal
22 business processes as appropriate; and
23 (vi) Integrating certain customer-focused tools and initiatives.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 47.66.030 and 2005 c 318 s 4 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (1)(a) The department shall establish a regional mobility grant
27 program. The purpose of the grant program is to aid local governments
28 in funding projects such as intercounty connectivity service, park
29 and ride lots, rush hour transit service, and capital projects that
30 improve the connectivity and efficiency of our transportation system.
31 The department shall identify cost-effective projects that reduce
32 delay for people and goods and improve connectivity between counties
33 and regional population centers. The department shall submit a
34 prioritized list of all projects requesting funding to the
35 legislature by December 1st of each year.

36 (b) Once the department has a prioritized list, pursuant to (a)
37 of this subsection and RCW 47.66.040, of all projects requesting
38 funding, the department shall reprioritize the projects in counties
39 with a population of seven hundred thousand or more that border Puget

1 Sound based on the same criteria used for the prioritized list as
2 well as the additional criteria of coordination and integration.
3 After this reprioritization, the department shall integrate these
4 reprioritized projects with the prioritized projects from all other
5 counties while ensuring that the prioritized projects from all other
6 counties do not move to a lower relative position on this integrated
7 list or, if a prioritized project from all other counties is in the
8 funded portion of the prioritized list, out of the funded portion of
9 this integrated list.

10 (2) The department may establish an advisory committee to carry
11 out the mandates of this chapter.

12 (3) The department must report annually to the transportation
13 committees of the legislature on the status of any grants projects
14 funded by the program created under this section.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect August 1, 2015.

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