Washington State **House of Representatives** Office of Program Research	**BILL** **ANALYSIS**

Transportation Committee

SSB 6211

Brief Description: Creating an agricultural scenic corridor within the scenic and recreational highway system.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Hatfield and Kohl-Welles).

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- Creates an agricultural scenic corridor designation within the scenic and recreational highway system.

- Designates a portion of state route 5 as part of the scenic and recreational highway system and as an agricultural scenic corridor.

Hearing Date: 2/18/10

Staff: Christie Parker (786-7322).

Background:

The Scenic and Recreational Highway System was created in statute in 1967. Modifications to the process were made in 1999 to improve Washington state highways' competitiveness under the new federal "Scenic Byways" grant program within the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. A highway does not become part of the scenic and recreational highway system unless approved by the Legislature.

Summary of Bill:

A new agricultural scenic corridor designation is added within the scenic and recreational highway system. An agricultural scenic corridor is described as an area that showcases the state's historical agricultural areas and promotes the maintenance and enhancement of agricultural areas. A portion of state route 5 from Starbird Road in Snohomish County to Bow

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Hill Road in Skagit County is designated as an agricultural scenic corridor and therefore is added to the Scenic and Recreational Highway System.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.