
HOUSE BILL 2314

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Seaquist, Rolfes, Smith, Bailey, Nelson, Angel, Green, Finn, Kagi, Appleton, Warnick, Johnson, and Haigh

Read first time 03/18/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to ferry system accountability; adding a new
2 section to chapter 47.60 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 47.60 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A ferry partnership advisory committee must be created by
7 September 1, 2009, to recommend annually ferry fare schedules to the
8 commission. The executive committee of the Washington state ferry
9 users shall make recommendations for appointments to the committee.
10 The commission shall appoint nine members to the committee, all of whom
11 must be permanent residents of ferry-served communities. Members of
12 the committee shall serve without receiving compensation.

13 (2) Appointments to the ferry partnership advisory committee must
14 include:

- 15 (a) Two ferry riders;
- 16 (b) Two representatives of local governments;
- 17 (c) Two representatives of commercial users;
- 18 (d) Two ferry system employees who work aboard the ferries; and
- 19 (e) One representative of the United States navy.

1 (3) Members of the ferry partnership advisory committee shall serve
2 three-year terms; however, the initial terms of members may be shorter
3 to stagger the expiration of terms.

4 (4) The ferry partnership advisory committee shall serve in an
5 advisory capacity to the commission on all matters related to the
6 development of ferry fares including, but not limited to: (a) Pricing
7 and service strategies; (b) the cost-effectiveness of ferry system
8 operations as it affects fare schedules; and (c) fare and service
9 innovations that may help control system costs and fares.

10 (5) Meetings of the ferry partnership advisory committee must be
11 public and must be timed to allow for ample public input into the ferry
12 fare setting cycle.

13 (6) Staff support, to include the provision of data and analysis of
14 ferry system fares, usage, and costs, must be provided to the ferry
15 partnership advisory committee by the department in conjunction with
16 the commission.

17 (7) In setting ferry fares, the commission shall consider
18 recommendations of the ferry partnership advisory committee.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act may be known and cited as the
20 Washington ferry system accountability act.

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