

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1286

As Reported by House Committee On:
Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs

Title: An act relating to the sale or exchange of unused department of transportation lands to federally recognized Indian tribes.

Brief Description: Authorizing the sale or exchange of unused department of transportation lands to federally recognized Indian tribes.

Sponsors: Representatives Sawyer, Dahlquist, McCoy, Clibborn, Jinkins, Ryu, Lias, Zeiger, Tharinger, Santos and Pollet.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs: 1/30/13, 2/5/13 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to transfer and convey unused Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT) land to a federally recognized Indian tribe.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 8 members: Representatives McCoy, Chair; Appleton, Vice Chair; Angel, Ranking Minority Member; Johnson, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Pike, Ryu, Santos and Sawyer.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 1 member: Representative Haler.

Staff: Sean Flynn (786-7124).

Background:

The Secretary of Transportation may transfer and convey any unused state-owned real property under the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT)

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to a federal agency or instrumentality, another state agency, any county or city or port district of the state, or any public utility company, when the transfer and conveyance is consistent with public interest.

Summary of Bill:

The Secretary of Transportation may transfer and convey any unused state-owned real property under its jurisdiction to a federally recognized Indian tribe when the transfer and conveyance is consistent with public interest.

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.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) The law allowing government bodies to exchange land was extended to include tribes. The DOT has its own statutory authority to dispose lands. This is a very good piece of public policy.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Sawyer, prime sponsor; and Rick Jensen, Muckleshoot Tribe.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.