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HOUSE BILL 2911

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Robertson, K. Schmidt, R. Fisher, Backlund, Blanton and Wolfe

Read first time 01/24/96. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to performance budgeting for transportation  
2 agencies; and creating a new chapter in Title 47 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. It is the intent of the legislature  
5 and the governor to ensure accountability for transportation agencies'  
6 programs and activities. Performance budgeting is a tool that provides  
7 such accountability and an opportunity to prioritize and focus  
8 transportation revenues to programs that maximize the value of the  
9 public's transportation resources and revenues.

10 The objective of this chapter is to require that the major  
11 transportation agencies submit performance-based budgets for the  
12 1997-'99 biennium to the governor and the legislature. The major  
13 transportation agencies are the department of transportation, the  
14 Washington state patrol, and the department of licensing.

15 This chapter provides the framework for the legislature, governor,  
16 major transportation agencies, and the citizens of the state to more  
17 fully understand the transportation programs and their goals,  
18 objectives, and effectiveness.

1 It is the intent of this chapter that agencies will be exempt from  
2 some aspects of the current budget submittal process that requires an  
3 enormous amount of detail for budget requests from agencies and the  
4 governor.

5 This chapter capitalizes upon activities currently being performed  
6 by the major transportation agencies: Strategic planning, cost  
7 accounting, performance measure establishment, quality initiatives, and  
8 participation in the transportation executive information system.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** STRATEGIC PLANNING. A major transportation  
10 agency shall submit a strategic plan with its agency request budget.  
11 The strategic plan must at a minimum include a six-year outlook and  
12 provide for specific functions and activities. The strategic plans  
13 submitted by major transportation agencies will serve as the focus for  
14 agency operations. It will also serve as the basis for the agency to  
15 request and account for, the governor to recommend, the legislature to  
16 appropriate money and approve programs, and the citizens to understand  
17 transportation agencies' programs.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** COST ACCOUNTING. The agencies shall use  
19 their cost accounting systems in preparing detailed information in  
20 support of agency programs during the budget submittal process and the  
21 monitoring process. Where practical, cost accounting information must  
22 be used to measure the unit costs of agency activities.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** PERFORMANCE MEASURE ESTABLISHMENT. The  
24 agencies shall establish performance measures that measure activities  
25 identified in the strategic plan and shall project them for six years.  
26 In addition, they shall provide historical information on those  
27 performance measures. The agencies shall establish performance  
28 measures for the major activities of each subprogram.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** PERFORMANCE BUDGET DEVELOPMENT--LINKAGE TO  
30 STRATEGIC PLAN. The agencies' decision packages must be linked to  
31 their strategic plans.

32 It is the intent of this chapter that each agency consider the name  
33 of each program, subprogram, and major activity to ensure that the name  
34 is clear and understandable to a lay person.

1 It is the intent of this chapter that each decision package clearly  
2 delineate the level of service to be enhanced or created.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** EXEMPTION TO CURRENT BUDGET PREPARATION  
4 PROCESS. The agencies shall adhere to the governor's budget  
5 instructions. The budget instructions must include exemption from the  
6 current budget submittal process in order to provide the agencies the  
7 time to prepare performance-based budgets and decision packages.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** MANAGEMENT QUALITY INITIATIVES. The  
9 agencies shall submit as part of the strategic plan required as part of  
10 the budget submittal the plans for quality initiatives and  
11 self-assessment. They shall also offer the governor and the  
12 legislature means by which the governor and the legislature shall  
13 perform external reviews of the agencies' programs, in addition to the  
14 current oversight techniques employed by the governor and the  
15 legislature.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION REVIEW. The advisory  
17 committee created in section 9 of this act shall establish means of  
18 reviewing all transportation programs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** PERFORMANCE BUDGETING ADVISORY COMMITTEE.  
20 An advisory committee to implement the Transportation Performance  
21 Budget Act of 1996 is created. A steering committee of leadership from  
22 the legislative transportation committee, the governor, the director of  
23 financial management, and the directors of the major transportation  
24 agencies is created to guide this effort. The steering committee shall  
25 designate appropriate staff of the governor, office of financial  
26 management, the legislative transportation committee, and the major  
27 transportation agencies to develop the specific methods of implementing  
28 this chapter.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** CAPITALIZATION ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES. This  
30 chapter does not require an agency to develop a new strategic plan,  
31 cost accounting system, establish new performance measures, or  
32 management quality initiatives in place of current activities that meet  
33 the intent of this chapter.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 11.**   Section captions used in this act are not  
2 part of the law.

3        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 12.**   Sections 1 through 11 of this act are a new  
4 chapter in Title 47 RCW.

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