
HOUSE BILL 1785

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives K. Schmidt, Zellinsky and Wensman

Read first time 02/10/97. Referred to Committee on Transportation Policy & Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to naming Washington state ferries; amending RCW
2 47.60.310; and adding a new section to chapter 47.60 RCW.

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 The legislature recognizes that since the Washington state ferry
7 system is created by the taxpayers they should have a part in naming
8 their investment. To that end, Washington state residents are
9 encouraged to submit to the executive committee of the Washington state
10 ferry users suggested names for Washington state ferries that will be
11 commissioned. Suggestions must be of Washington state historical or
12 cultural significance. Suggestions may not exceed three words and
13 should be accompanied by an essay of no more than five hundred words
14 explaining the suggested name's Washington state historical or cultural
15 relevance. The executive committee will review conforming submissions
16 and forward no more than three selections to the transportation
17 commission for the final determinations.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 47.60.310 and 1988 c 100 s 1 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) The department is further directed to conduct such review by
4 soliciting and obtaining expressions from local community groups in
5 order to be properly informed as to problems being experienced within
6 the area served by the Washington state ferries. In order that local
7 representation may be established, the department shall give prior
8 notice of the review to the ferry advisory committees.

9 (2) The legislative authorities of San Juan, Skagit, Clallam, and
10 Jefferson counties shall each appoint a committee to consist of five
11 members to serve as an advisory committee to the department or its
12 designated representative in such review. The legislative authorities
13 of other counties that contain ferry terminals shall appoint ferry
14 advisory committees consisting of three members for each terminal area
15 in each county, except for Vashon Island, which shall have one
16 committee, and its members shall be appointed by the Vashon/Maury
17 Island community council. At least one person appointed to each ferry
18 advisory committee shall be representative of an established ferry user
19 group or of frequent users of the ferry system. Each member shall
20 reside in the vicinity of the terminal that the advisory committee
21 represents.

22 (3) The members of the San Juan, Clallam, and Jefferson county
23 ferry advisory committees shall be appointed for four-year terms. The
24 initial terms shall commence on July 1, 1982, and end on June 30, 1986.
25 Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by
26 the appointing authority. At least one person appointed to the
27 advisory committee shall be representative of an established ferry-user
28 group or of frequent users of the ferry system, at least one shall be
29 representative of persons or firms using or depending upon the ferry
30 system for commerce, and one member shall be representative of a local
31 government planning body or its staff. Every member shall be a
32 resident of the county upon whose advisory committee he or she sits,
33 and not more than three members shall at the time of their appointment
34 be members of the same major political party.

35 (4) The members of each terminal area committee shall be appointed
36 for four-year terms. The initial terms of the members of each terminal
37 area committee shall be staggered as follows: All terms shall commence
38 September 1, 1988, with one member's term expiring August 31, 1990, one
39 member's term expiring August 31, 1991, and the remaining member's term

1 expiring August 31, 1992. Any vacancy shall be filled for the
2 remainder of the unexpired term by the appointing authority. Not more
3 than two members of any terminal-area committee may be from the same
4 political party at the time of their appointment, and in a county
5 having more than one committee, the overall party representation shall
6 be as nearly equal as possible.

7 (5) The chairmen of the several committees constitute an executive
8 committee of the Washington state ferry users. The executive committee
9 shall meet twice each year with representatives of the marine division
10 of the department to review ferry system issues. Additionally, as
11 provided in section 1 of this act, the executive committee shall
12 convene from time to time, as necessary, to review and select suggested
13 names for ferries that will be commissioned.

14 (6) The committees to be appointed by the county legislative
15 authorities shall serve without fee or compensation.

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