
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1989

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Trade & Economic Development (originally sponsored by Representatives Van Luven, Morris, Sehlin, Conway, DeBolt, Dickerson, Quall, Kastama, Doumit, Cooper, Gardner, Veloria, Blalock, Poulsen, Chopp, Keiser, O'Brien, Anderson and Linville)

Read first time 02/28/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to marine tourism with British Columbia, Canada;
2 adding a new section to chapter 47.60 RCW; creating a new section; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Tourism is an important component of the state's economy and
7 spending by out-of-state visitors and Washington residents traveling
8 within the state totaled over seven and one-half billion dollars in
9 1994;

10 (b) In 1994, spending by travelers provided employment for over
11 ninety-six thousand people and that travel-generated payroll was one
12 billion fifty-one million dollars;

13 (c) In 1994, state tax revenue generated by travel spending totaled
14 four hundred eleven million dollars and local governments collected one
15 hundred four million nine hundred thousand dollars in travel-generated
16 taxes;

17 (d) In 1994, approximately twelve and one-half million
18 international travelers visited Washington state and Canadian visitors

1 accounted for approximately twelve million of the total visitors to
2 Washington state;

3 (e) In 1995, approximately twenty-two and nine-tenths percent of
4 all Canadian visitors, both overnight and same day, to the United
5 States came to Washington state; and

6 (f) In 1994, spending by Canadian visitors added four hundred four
7 million eight hundred thousand dollars to the Washington state economy.

8 (2) The legislature declares that tourism is a vital component of
9 the state's economy and that the Puget Sound ferry system is vital to
10 the state's tourism efforts.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.60 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 In addition to the requirements of RCW 47.60.330(1), before a
14 substantial curtailment in the level of service provided to ferry users
15 between the state and British Columbia, Canada, the department of
16 transportation shall consider the impact of the loss of tourism on the
17 state and the local community.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
20 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
21 immediately.

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