SENATE BILL 5824

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senators Heavey, Patterson and Roach

Read first time 02/14/97. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to travel by public officers and employees; and 2 adding a new section to chapter 42.04 RCW.

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

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 42.04 RCW 5 to read as follows:

6 First class and business class commercial air carrier 7 accommodations may not be used by a state or local government officer, whether elected or appointed, and a state or local government employee 8 9 who travels by commercial airlines in the discharge of the duties of 10 his or her position or employment at public expense unless otherwise required as a reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities or 11 where an emergency would warrant the travel. An officer or employee of 12 13 a local government may be authorized to travel by business or 14 equivalent class in cases of international travel if (1) a single leg 15 of the trip involves a commercial airline flight of at least ten hours duration, (2) the traveler engages in official business within twelve 16 hours of arrival at the destination, and (3) business or equivalent 17 class travel on the particular trip is expressly authorized at a public 18

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- 1 meeting by the governing body of the local government for which the
- 2 traveler is an officer or employee.

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