
HOUSE BILL 2269

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Second Special Session

By Representatives Mitchell, Fisher, Hatfield, Woods and Jarrett

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the transportation accountability board; adding
2 new sections to chapter 47.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
3 44.48 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.105 RCW; creating a new
4 section; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 It is the intent of the legislature to create an independent and
9 objective transportation accountability board to establish performance
10 measures and benchmarks to ensure transportation system performance at
11 all levels of government.

12 The mission of the transportation accountability board is to
13 implement the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on
14 Transportation regarding the adoption of transportation benchmarks as
15 a cornerstone of government accountability at the state, city, county,
16 and transit district levels. The legislature embraces that
17 recommendation. Monitoring performance of the system and measuring
18 results will be the basis for all transportation strategies.

1 The transportation accountability board shall develop a strategy
2 and implement a plan for a performance measurement system. The system
3 must include data gathering, analysis, development of recommendations,
4 monitoring the implementation of recommendations, and a process for
5 reporting transportation system performance to the governor's office,
6 the legislature, and the public.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) The transportation accountability board is created.

10 (2) The board is composed of five members, appointed by the
11 governor with the advice and consent of the senate for terms of four
12 years, except that two members initially will be appointed for terms of
13 two years. Members should have transportation experience in
14 management, operations, planning, budgeting, project management, or
15 performance measurement.

16 (3) The governor may not remove members from the board before the
17 expiration of their terms unless for cause based upon a determination
18 of incapacity, incompetence, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office
19 by the Thurston county superior court, upon petition and show cause
20 proceedings brought for that purpose in that court and directed to the
21 board member in question.

22 (4) No member may be appointed for more than three consecutive
23 terms.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 (1) The board shall meet periodically upon the call of its chair.
27 It may adopt its own rules and may establish its own procedures. It
28 shall act collectively in harmony with recorded resolutions or motions
29 adopted by a majority vote of the members.

30 (2) The board shall elect one of its members as the chair for a
31 term of two years. The chair may vote on all matters before the board.

32 (3) Each member of the board will be compensated in accordance with
33 RCW 43.03.250 and reimbursed for actual necessary traveling and other
34 expenses in going to, attending, and returning from meetings of the
35 board or that are incurred in the discharge of duties requested by the
36 chair. However, in no event may a board member be compensated in any
37 year for more than one hundred twenty days, except the chair of the

1 board may be compensated for not more than one hundred fifty days.
2 Service on the board does not qualify as a service credit for the
3 purposes of a public retirement system.

4 (4) The board shall keep proper records and is subject to audit by
5 the state auditor.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The board, at its option, may either appoint a professional
9 administrator, who will serve at its pleasure and whose salary will be
10 set by the board, or make provisions ensuring these responsibilities
11 are carried out by the legislative evaluation and accountability
12 program personnel. Staff support to the board must be provided by the
13 legislative evaluation and accountability program, which shall provide
14 professional support for the duties, functions, responsibilities, and
15 activities of the board, including but not limited to information
16 technology systems; data collection, processing, analysis, and
17 reporting; project management; and office space, equipment, and
18 secretarial support.

19 (2) The board may from time to time retain planners, consultants,
20 and other technical personnel to advise it in the performance of its
21 duties.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 (1) The transportation accountability board shall serve as a
25 single, independent, statewide point of accountability for reporting,
26 analyzing, and monitoring the performance of an integrated
27 transportation system. The board has the following responsibilities:

28 (a) Develop performance measures for the transportation system for
29 the purposes enumerated in section 1 of this act;

30 (b) Implement and oversee the attainment of benchmarks and
31 performance measures that have been adopted by the board;

32 (c) Report biennially to the governor and the legislature on
33 progress toward achieving recommended reforms and efficiencies, and
34 make policy recommendations for furthering progress toward achieving
35 optimal transportation system performance;

1 (d) Monitor and report the efforts at the state, city, county, and
2 transit district levels on adopting leading edge transportation
3 strategies.

4 (2) The board must be given timely access, upon written request of
5 the administrator, to all machine readable, printed, and other data of
6 state agencies relative to transportation expenditures, budgets, and
7 related fiscal matters.

8 (3) In developing the benchmarks and performance measures, the
9 board shall solicit input from cities, counties, transit districts,
10 state agencies, transportation stakeholders, and the public. The board
11 shall report back to the legislature on the adopted benchmarks and
12 performance measures by December 15, 2001.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 By December 15th of each even-numbered year, the transportation
16 accountability board shall prepare and submit to the house and senate
17 standing committees on transportation and the office of financial
18 management, a comprehensive statewide report on transportation systems
19 at the state, county, city, and transit district levels, measuring each
20 system's performance and progress in achieving the benchmarks and
21 performance measures adopted by the board under section 5 of this act.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 The board shall cooperate, act, and function with Washington state
25 legislative committees and may cooperate with the councils or
26 committees of other states similar to this board and with other
27 interstate research organizations.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 44.48 RCW
29 to read as follows:

30 To carry out section 5 of this act, the legislative evaluation and
31 accountability program shall provide staff support to the
32 transportation accountability board for:

33 (1) Automated data bases and application systems in support of
34 board requirements to monitor, evaluate, analyze, report, and review;

35 (2) Maintenance of computer software, application programs, data
36 bases, and related documentation;

1 (3) Education, training, and programming services;
2 (4) Procedural documentation support;
3 (5) Consulting assistance on special projects; and
4 (6) Any other staff assistance or use of facilities and equipment
5 that is necessary for the board to carry out its duties.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 43.105 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The transportation accountability board is expressly exempt from
9 this chapter.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** This act shall be known as the
11 Transportation Accountability Act of 2001.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** This act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
14 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
15 immediately.

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