

FINAL BILL REPORT

ESHB 1967

PARTIAL VETO C 371 L 11 Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Modifying provisions related to public transportation system planning.

Sponsors: House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Fitzgibbon, Armstrong, Lias, Nealey, Clibborn, Billig, Frockt and Reykdal).

House Committee on Transportation
Senate Committee on Transportation

Background:

Each April, transit agencies in Washington are required to submit six-year transit development plans for that year and the ensuing five years, as well as system reports identifying public transportation services provided in the previous year and objectives for improvements. Similar reports are due to the Federal Transit Administration in September of each year.

Based on information that is submitted in the system reports, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) must prepare an annual report that summarizes individual public transportation systems. This report is due September 1 of each year to the transportation committees of the Legislature and each state municipality.

During 2010 the Joint Transportation Committee was directed to conduct a study to identify the state role in public transportation and to develop a statewide blueprint to guide public transportation investments. The ensuing report, titled *Identifying the State Role in Public Transportation*, made a number of recommendations relating to the state's role, that include:

- integrating public transportation into regional and statewide planning;
- developing and promoting policies to encourage the use of all public transportation modes;
- assessing the adequacy of funding sources and developing new funding strategies to address statewide concerns;
- aligning report and data collection to provide a comprehensive and useful picture of transit; and
- establishing a consistent set of measures to assess public transportation systems.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary:

The due dates for both the six-year transit development plans and the system reports are changed from April 1 to September 1.

The due date for the annual summary report on the status of public transportation systems prepared by the WSDOT is changed from September 1 to December 1. The WSDOT is also required, if such information is available, to include information about other modes of public transportation, how those modes impact the transportation system, and how public transportation helps the state meet the transportation system policy goals.

New state facilities that are to be located within the boundaries of a public transportation system must be sited in areas that are adequately accessible by transit service.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	64	34	
Senate	44	5	(Senate amended)
House	70	27	(House concurred)

Effective: July 22, 2011

Partial Veto Summary: The Governor vetoed section 3 of the bill, thus removing the provision requiring that new state facilities in transit districts be sited in areas adequately accessible by transit service.