
SENATE BILL 5860

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Owen, Heavey, Oke, Wood, Haugen, Fairley, Sellar, Schow, Rasmussen and Winsley

Read first time 02/10/95. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to transportation construction project cost
2 estimates; and adding a new section to chapter 47.05 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 47.05 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 In order to improve transportation construction project cost
7 estimates, including environmental mitigation costs, it is the intent
8 of the legislature to revise the current method of budgeting and
9 accounting for construction projects, by segregating the appropriations
10 provided for preliminary engineering and right of way and construction.
11 For an improvement project with an estimated total cost of fifteen
12 million dollars or greater, the department shall submit preliminary
13 engineering and right-of-way appropriation requests to the
14 transportation commission, the governor, and the legislature for any
15 new improvement project to be considered by the 1996 legislature and
16 thereafter. At the time the appropriation request is made for
17 preliminary engineering and right of way, preliminary construction
18 estimates must also be provided. Upon completion of the preliminary
19 engineering and right-of-way phases of project development, the

1 department shall submit an appropriation request for the construction
2 of the project. Projects that have received funding for preliminary
3 engineering, right of way, and construction before the effective date
4 of this act are not subject to this section.

5 The legislature also finds that inadequate construction cost
6 estimates result from disagreements between design and construction
7 engineers assigned at different times to the same construction project.
8 On a trial basis, the department shall select a sample of preservation
9 and improvement projects for which the design engineer shall become the
10 construction engineer during the construction phase of the project.
11 The department shall report to the legislature no later than December
12 31, 1997, on the effectiveness of providing engineering continuity
13 between the design and construction phases including, but not limited
14 to, impacts on scope change, change orders, and final costs versus
15 original estimates.

--- END ---