

2 EHB 1012 - S COMM AMD  
3 By Committee on Transportation

4 ADOPTED 04/09/01

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 47.60.326 and 1999 c 94 s 27 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (1) In order to maintain an adequate, fair, and economically sound  
10 schedule of charges for the transportation of passengers, vehicles, and  
11 commodities on the Washington state ferries, the department of  
12 transportation each year shall conduct a full review of such charges.

13 (2) Prior to February 1st of each odd-numbered year the department  
14 shall transmit to the transportation commission a report of its review  
15 together with its recommendations for the revision of a schedule of  
16 charges for the ensuing biennium. The commission on or before July 1st  
17 of that year shall adopt as a rule, in the manner provided by the  
18 Washington administrative procedure act, a schedule of charges for the  
19 Washington state ferries for the ensuing biennium commencing July 1st.  
20 The schedule may initially be adopted as an emergency rule if necessary  
21 to take effect on, or as near as possible to, July 1st.

22 (3) The department in making its review and formulating  
23 recommendations and the commission in adopting a schedule of charges  
24 may consider any of the following factors:

25 (a) The amount of subsidy available to the ferry system for  
26 maintenance and operation;

27 (b) The time and distance of ferry runs;

28 (c) The maintenance and operation costs for ferry runs with a  
29 proper adjustment for higher costs of operating outmoded or less  
30 efficient equipment;

31 (d) The efficient distribution of traffic between cross-sound  
32 routes;

33 (e) The desirability of reasonable commutation rates for persons  
34 using the ferry system to commute daily to work;

35 (f) The effect of proposed fares in increasing walk-on and  
36 vehicular passenger use;

1 (g) The effect of proposed fares in promoting all types of ferry  
2 use during nonpeak periods;

3 (h) Such other factors as prudent managers of a major ferry system  
4 would consider.

5 (4) If at any time during the biennium it appears that projected  
6 revenues from the Puget Sound ferry operations account and any other  
7 operating subsidy available to the Washington state ferries will be  
8 less than the projected total cost of maintenance and operation of the  
9 Washington state ferries for the biennium, the department shall  
10 forthwith undertake a review of its schedule of charges to ascertain  
11 whether or not the schedule of charges should be revised. The  
12 department shall, upon completion of its review report, submit its  
13 recommendation to the transportation commission which may in its sound  
14 discretion revise the schedule of charges as required to meet necessary  
15 maintenance and operation expenditures of the ferry system for the  
16 biennium or may defer action until the regular annual review and  
17 revision of ferry charges as provided in subsection (2) of this  
18 section.

19 (5) The provisions of RCW 47.60.330 relating to public  
20 participation shall apply to the process of revising ferry tolls under  
21 this section.

22 (6) Under RCW 43.135.055, the transportation commission may  
23 increase ferry tolls included in the schedule of charges adopted under  
24 this section by a percentage that exceeds the fiscal growth factor.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
27 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
28 immediately."

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32 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "factor;" strike the  
33 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 47.60.326; and  
34 declaring an emergency."

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