

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SSB 6791

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As Passed Senate, February 13, 2006

**Title:** An act relating to liquor licenses issued to entities providing concession services on vessels owned by the Washington state ferries.

**Brief Description:** Concerning liquor licenses issued to entities providing concession services on ferries.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development (originally sponsored by Senators Poulsen, Kohl-Welles and Rockefeller).

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Labor, Commerce, Research & Development: 2/1/06, 2/2/06 [DPS].  
Passed Senate: 2/13/06, 37-6.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6791 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Kohl-Welles, Chair; Franklin, Vice Chair; Parlette, Ranking Minority Member; Brown, Hewitt, Honeyford, Keiser and Prentice.

**Staff:** Jennifer Strus (786-7316)

**Background:** The entity with whom the Washington State Ferries contracts to provide concession services on a state ferry must obtain a liquor license in order to serve alcohol on the vessel. The Liquor Control Board requires that a separate license be issued for each vessel upon which alcohol will be served. If the vessel for which the license is issued is out of commission and a substitute vessel is brought in temporarily, the entity providing concession services cannot serve alcohol on the substitute vessel.

**Summary of Bill:** If a beer and/or wine restaurant license is issued to a person who contracts with the Washington state ferry system to provide food and alcohol services on a designated ferry route, the license shall cover any vessel assigned to that route.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** The persons who provide food and alcohol services on a vessel owned by the Washington Ferry System cannot provide these services if the vessel normally used is out

of service and a substitute vessel brought in. Customers like and count on these amenities and to not be able to offer them in the event a substitute ferry is used causes a loss of business.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testimony Other:** The better method of dealing with the issue of licenses issued to individual ferry vessels is to license the route rather than the vessel.

**Who Testified:** PRO: Senator Poulsen, Prime Sponsor; Bill Dorn, Sound Food; Nove Meyers, Olympic Cascade Services; Jennifer Ziegler, DOT.

OTHER: Rick Gaza, LCB.