

SSB 6580 - S AMD 144

By Senators Marr, Hobbs, Berkey, and Kilmer

ADOPTED 02/19/2008

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that the
4 profound implications of a changed climate will affect the peoples,
5 institutions, and economies of Washington. While no single local
6 government can substantially influence greenhouse gas emissions or
7 climate change trends, the legislature recognizes that the state,
8 including its local governments and residents, must do its part to
9 reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

10 (2) The legislature further recognizes that: (a) Patterns of land
11 use development significantly influence transportation-related
12 greenhouse gas emissions; (b) fossil fuel-based transportation is the
13 largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Washington; and (c) the
14 state and its residents will not achieve emission reductions
15 established in RCW 80.80.020 without a significant decrease in
16 transportation emissions. To this end, the legislature finds that
17 local land use and state and local transportation plans should be
18 developed to: Minimize greenhouse gas emissions associated with new
19 development and transportation improvements; and reduce overall
20 greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with RCW 80.80.020.

21 (3) The legislature finds that comprehensive land use plans of
22 local governments can be a significant tool for meaningfully addressing
23 these difficult issues. The legislature recognizes that locally
24 adopted plans should: (a) Minimize land use patterns that increase
25 vehicle usage; (b) encourage compact communities, in-filling, denser
26 development, linkages with transit options, and other practices that
27 reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled; and (c) encourage green
28 jobs and the provision of affordable housing in areas near employment
29 and service centers.

1 (4) The legislature also finds that the effects of global warming
2 are becoming evident in Washington, adversely affecting its residents,
3 economy, and environment. It is critical that Washington and its
4 counties and cities plan to adapt to these adverse effects and take
5 steps to prevent problematic circumstances from becoming worse.

6 (5) The legislature further finds that addressing land use-related
7 climate issues will simultaneously advance many other land use planning
8 goals and provide public dividends, including: (a) Realizing
9 reductions in the costs of providing public facilities and services
10 through more compact development; (b) increasing housing affordability
11 through lower public costs and more compact patterns of growth; (c)
12 lessening transportation costs through reductions in the number of
13 vehicle miles traveled; and (d) accomplishing goals for the protection
14 of the environmental resources of rural areas and resource lands by
15 reducing sprawl. The legislature also recognizes that alternative
16 fuels, and vehicles that use alternative fuels or have increased
17 efficiencies, will contribute to lessening greenhouse gas emissions and
18 will encourage investment in these fuels, energy sources, and
19 technologies.

20 (6) Without prompt, effective, and comprehensive responses to the
21 environmental and governance challenges of climate change, meaningful
22 solutions to these borderless issues will continue to elude the state
23 and its residents. The legislature recognizes that many Washington
24 counties and cities have begun to independently address climate change.
25 The legislature further finds that to achieve the state's emission
26 reduction goals, a collaborative effort is needed. This act is the
27 first step toward providing local governments with the tools that are
28 necessary to accomplish the state's emission reduction goals.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW
30 to read as follows:

31 (1) The department must develop and provide advisory climate change
32 response methodologies, computer modeling programs, and estimates to
33 counties and cities that include a range of methodologies and
34 estimates. The advisory methodologies, computer modeling programs, and
35 estimates must reflect regional and local variations and the diversity
36 of counties and cities planning under this chapter, and, at a minimum,
37 also must:

1 (a) Identify the greenhouse gas emission reductions that various
2 land use and building measures are estimated to produce. The
3 methodologies developed under this subsection (1)(a) may be expressed
4 as a methodology or a quantification of probable reductions. The
5 methodologies must be capable of considering documented benefits of
6 accommodating growth within urban centers that provide for compact
7 development, appropriate mixes of uses, transit, nonmotorized travel
8 choices, and a balance of employment and housing;

9 (b) Consider potential policies, regulatory programs, and other
10 measures counties and cities can implement to adapt to the likely
11 adverse effects of global warming. Policies, programs, and measures
12 considered under this subsection (1)(b) must be consistent with the
13 department of ecology's preparation and adaption work group;

14 (c) Identify potential measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
15 by lessening vehicle travel; and

16 (d) Estimate the number of vehicle miles traveled.

17 (2) The department must complete and make available the advisory
18 climate change response methodologies and estimates required by this
19 section by December 1, 2009. These advisory climate change response
20 methodologies and estimates must also be updated two years before each
21 completion date established in RCW 36.70A.130(4)(a).

22 (3) In preparing the methodologies and estimates, the department
23 must periodically consult with the advisory team required by section
24 4(3) of this act.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) A local government global warming
26 mitigation and adaptation program is established. The program must be
27 administered by the department of community, trade, and economic
28 development. The department must, through a competitive process,
29 select at least three counties and six cities for the program. At
30 least one county and one city selected for the program must have
31 potential to be adversely impacted by global warming through sea-level
32 increases, storms, flooding, or other adverse effects. At least one
33 county and one city must be located east of the crest of the Cascade
34 mountains. At least one county and one city must be located west of
35 the crest of the Cascade mountains and outside the central Puget Sound
36 region. Counties selected must reflect a range of opportunities to
37 address climate change in urbanizing, resource, or agricultural areas.

1 Cities selected must reflect a range of sizes, geographic locations,
2 and variations between those that are highly urbanized and those that
3 are less so and include more residential dwellings than employment
4 positions.

5 (2) The program is established to assist counties and cities that
6 are addressing climate change through their land use and transportation
7 planning, and those that aspire to do so but lack necessary resources.
8 The department may fund proposals to inventory global warming
9 emissions, mitigate global warming emissions, or adapt to the adverse
10 impacts of global warming using criteria established by the department
11 to accomplish the objectives of this act.

12 (3) The department must provide grants and technical assistance to
13 aid the selected counties and cities in their efforts to anticipate,
14 mitigate, and adapt to global warming and its associated problems.

15 (4) The program must conclude by June 30, 2010.

16 (5) If specific funding for the purposes of this section,
17 referencing this act by bill or chapter number and section number is
18 not provided by June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
19 section is null and void.

20 (6) This section expires January 1, 2011, with a report by the
21 department to the governor and the appropriate committees of the house
22 of representatives and the senate on program findings and
23 recommendations.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) With the use of funds provided by
25 specific appropriation, by December 1, 2008, the department of
26 community, trade, and economic development must provide to the governor
27 and appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the
28 senate, a report that includes: (a) A description of what actions
29 counties and cities are taking to address climate change issues; (b) a
30 recommendation of what changes, if any, to chapter 36.70A RCW and other
31 relevant statutes that would enable state and local governments to
32 address climate change issues through land use and transportation
33 planning processes; (c) an assessment of state and local resources,
34 financial and otherwise, needed to fully implement the recommendations
35 of (b) of this subsection; and (d) recommendations for funding to
36 implement the recommendations of (b) of this subsection that is
37 consistent with the assessment required in (c) of this subsection.

1 (2) The report must address, as appropriate and with information
2 that is readily available: (a) What counties and cities have
3 voluntarily done to identify the greenhouse gas emissions of their
4 communities, including those created by counties and cities through
5 governmental activities; (b) the range of strategies chosen by
6 jurisdictions to reduce emissions from their own activities and those
7 of the entire community; (c) a description of obstacles and
8 opportunities to achieve emission reductions in a variety of urban and
9 rural areas; and (d) recommendations for statutory amendments, if any,
10 that are necessary to facilitate emission reductions at the county and
11 city levels.

12 (3) In preparing the report, the department shall convene and
13 consult with an advisory team comprised of the following interests, at
14 a minimum: (a) Two members of each major and minor caucus of the house
15 of representatives and the senate; (b) one representative from the
16 office of the governor; (c) one representative from the department of
17 ecology; (d) one representative from the department of community,
18 trade, and economic development; (e) one representative from a city and
19 county from each of the jurisdictional areas of a growth management
20 hearings board; (f) one representative of an association representing
21 real estate interests; (g) one representative from an association
22 representing local government planners; (h) one representative from a
23 nonprofit entity with experience in growth management and land use
24 planning issues; (i) one representative from a statewide business
25 association; and (j) one representative from a nonprofit entity with
26 experience in climate change issues. With the exceptions of (a) of
27 this subsection, which shall be appointed by the president of the
28 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, (b) of this
29 subsection, which shall be nominated by the governor, and (c) of this
30 subsection, which shall be nominated by the department of ecology,
31 nominations from appropriate organizations shall be submitted to the
32 climate advisory team by July 1, 2008.

33 (4) This section expires December 31, 2008.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is not intended to amend or affect
35 chapter 353, Laws of 2007."

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1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "act;" strike the remainder
2 of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter 36.70A RCW;
3 creating new sections; and providing expiration dates."

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