

HB 2231 - DIGEST

Directs counties and cities to improve their planning under the growth management act to provide needed infrastructure for freight rail dependent uses adjacent to railroad lines.

Authorizes counties and cities to adopt development regulations to assure that agriculture, forest, and mineral resource lands adjacent to short line railroads may be developed for freight rail dependent uses.

Authorizes the transportation element required by RCW 36.70A.070 to include development of freight rail dependent uses on land adjacent to a short line railroad in counties, and cities within those counties: (1) Located to the west of the crest of the Cascade mountains that have both a population of at least two hundred forty thousand and a border that touches another state; or

(2) That have a total land area of at least five thousand square miles.

Allows development regulations to be modified to include development of freight rail dependent uses that do not require urban governmental services in rural lands or can be served by proximate connection to urban governmental services that exist in rural lands.