
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1683

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Orwall, Dent, Stokesbary, Irwin, Pellicciotti, Reeves, and Hudgins)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a state commercial aviation
2 coordinating commission; creating new sections; and providing
3 expiration dates.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that with the
6 increase in air traffic operations, combined with the projections for
7 the rapid expansion of these operations in both the short and the
8 long term, concerns regarding the environmental, health, social, and
9 economic impacts of air traffic are increasing as well. The
10 legislature also finds that advancing Washington's position as a
11 national and international trading leader is dependent upon the
12 development of a highly competitive, statewide passenger and cargo
13 air transportation system. Therefore, the legislature seeks to
14 identify a location for a new primary commercial aviation facility in
15 Washington, taking into consideration the data and conclusions of
16 appropriate air traffic studies, community representatives, and
17 industry experts. Options for a new primary commercial aviation
18 facility in Washington may include expansion of an existing airport
19 facility. It is the intent of the legislature to establish a state
20 commercial aviation coordinating commission to provide a location
21 recommendation by January 1, 2021.

1 NEW SECTION.

2 **Sec. 2.**

3 (1) The state commercial aviation
4 coordinating commission is created to carry out the functions of this
5 chapter. The commission shall consist of sixteen voting members.

6 (2) The governor shall appoint eleven voting members to represent
7 the following interests:

8 (a) Four as representatives of commercial service airports and
9 ports, one of whom shall represent a port located in a county with a
10 population of two million or more, one of whom shall represent a port
11 in eastern Washington with an airport runway of at least thirteen
12 thousand five hundred feet in length, one of whom shall represent a
13 commercial service airport in eastern Washington located in a county
14 with a population of four hundred thousand or more, and one
15 representing an association of ports;

16 (b) Three as representatives from the airline industry and the
17 private sector;

18 (c) A representative from an eastern Washington metropolitan
19 planning organization;

20 (d) A representative from a western Washington metropolitan
21 planning organization; and

22 (e) Two citizen representatives with one appointed from eastern
23 Washington and one appointed from western Washington. The citizen
24 appointees must:

25 (i) Represent the public interests in the communities that are
26 included in the commission's site research; and

27 (ii) Understand the impacts of a large commercial aviation
28 facility on a community.

29 (3) The remaining five members shall consist of:

30 (a) A representative from the department of commerce;

31 (b) A representative from the division of aeronautics of the
32 department of transportation;

33 (c) The governor or the governor's designee;

34 (d) A representative from the freight forwarding industry; and

35 (e) A representative from the trucking industry.

36 (4) Nonvoting members shall include:

37 (a) A representative from the federal aviation administration;

38 (b) A representative from the Washington state aviation alliance;

39 (c) A representative from the department of defense;

40 (d) Two members from the senate, with one member from each of the
41 two largest caucuses in the senate, appointed by the president of the
42 senate; and

1 (e) Two members from the house of representatives, with one
2 member from each of the two largest caucuses in the house of
3 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
4 representatives.

5 (5) The governor may appoint additional nonvoting members as
6 deemed appropriate.

7 (6) The commission shall select a chair from among its membership
8 and shall adopt rules related to its powers and duties under this
9 chapter.

10 (7) Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for
11 travel expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on
12 behalf of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization.
13 Any reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to
14 chapter 43.03 RCW. The commission has all powers necessary to carry
15 out its duties as prescribed by this chapter.

16 (8) The department of transportation shall provide staff support
17 for coordinating and administering the commission and technical
18 assistance as requested by commission members.

19 (9) The governor or the governor's designee shall convene the
20 initial meeting of the commission as soon as practicable.

21 (10) This section expires July 1, 2021.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The state commercial aviation
23 coordinating commission shall review existing data and conduct
24 research to determine Washington's long-range commercial aviation
25 facility needs and the site of a new primary commercial aviation
26 facility. Research for each potential site must include the
27 feasibility of constructing a commercial aviation facility in that
28 location and its potential environmental, community, and economic
29 impacts. Options for a new primary commercial aviation facility in
30 Washington may include expansion of an existing airport facility. The
31 work of the commission shall include the following:

32 (a) Recommendations to the legislature on future Washington state
33 long-range commercial aviation facility needs; and

34 (b) Identifying a preferred location for a new primary commercial
35 aviation facility. The commission shall make recommendations and
36 shall select a single preferred location by a two-thirds majority
37 vote using the following process:

38 (i) Initiating a broad review of potential sites;

1 (ii) Recommending a final short list of no more than six
2 locations by January 1, 2020;

3 (iii) Identifying the top two locations from the final six
4 locations by September 1, 2020; and

5 (iv) Identifying a single preferred location for a new primary
6 commercial aviation facility by January 1, 2021.

7 (2) The commission shall submit findings and recommendations to
8 the transportation committees of the legislature by January 1, 2021.

9 (3) This section expires July 1, 2021.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The state commercial aviation
11 coordinating commission shall project a timeline for the development
12 of an additional commercial aviation facility that is completed and
13 functional by 2040.

14 (2) This section expires July 1, 2021.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) When assessing future Washington state
16 long-term commercial aviation facility needs under this act, the
17 state commercial aviation coordinating commission's recommendations
18 must be consistent with the department of transportation's long-term
19 air transportation study. Nothing in this act shall be construed to
20 endorse, limit, or otherwise alter existing or future plans for
21 capital development and capacity enhancement at existing commercial
22 airports in Washington.

23 (2) This section expires July 1, 2021.

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