

2 SHB 1452 - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Transportation

4 ADOPTED 4/18/91 - Voice Vote
5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that major
8 transportation corridors in this state are reaching unacceptable levels
9 of congestion. Proposed improvements such as extension of the HOV-lane
10 system or regional high-capacity systems, can, at best, only
11 temporarily reduce the rate at which congestion increases. Further,
12 such improvements do not address cross-state travel demands, whether
13 north-south or east-west.

14 Therefore, the legislature finds that 1991 is an appropriate time
15 for the legislature and the governor to direct that a comprehensive
16 assessment be made of the feasibility of developing a high-speed ground
17 transportation system within the state and that a plan be developed for
18 implementation of potential alternatives.

19 Congress has set aside federal funds in the amount of five hundred
20 thousand dollars for the state of Washington to carry out such an
21 assessment, with the stipulation that the state provide an equal amount
22 of state funds for the effort. If a high-speed ground transportation
23 system is developed within the state, the legislature believes
24 significant benefits would accrue to many segments of the private
25 sector economy. The legislature therefore finds that equal funding
26 support for the feasibility study provided for in section 4 of this act
27 should come from private sector sources. This three-way partnership
28 between the federal government, the state, and the private sector can

1 provide the foundation for ultimate development of a high-speed ground
2 transportation system."

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The high-speed ground transportation
4 steering committee is created, consisting of fifteen members, appointed
5 jointly by the governor, the chair of the legislative transportation
6 committee, and the chair of the transportation commission. The
7 appointing authorities shall also designate the chair of the steering
8 committee.

9 The committee must include representatives from the following:

10 (1) Cities and counties, including both elected officials and
11 planners, and if possible, representatives of regional transportation
12 planning organizations;

13 (2) Public transportation systems;

14 (3) The United States department of transportation;

15 (4) Public ports; and

16 (5) The private sector, including:

17 (a) The financial community;

18 (b) The engineering and construction community;

19 (c) Railroad companies;

20 (d) Environmental interests; and

21 (e) The legal profession.

22 The secretary of the state department of transportation, or the
23 secretary's designee, shall also be a member.

24 Members of the steering committee shall receive no compensation for
25 their service, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided
26 in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060."

27 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The following persons shall serve as
28 voting liaison members to the steering committee:

- 1 (1) The governor or a designee;
- 2 (2) Four legislators, one from each caucus of each house, appointed
- 3 by the chair of the legislative transportation committee; and
- 4 (3) The chair of the transportation commission.

5 In addition to those persons, the governor shall attempt to obtain
6 appropriate nonvoting liaison representation to the steering committee
7 from the state of Oregon and the province of British Columbia."

8 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The steering committee shall initially
9 address the feasibility of a high-speed ground transportation system
10 within this state, including such issues as:

- 11 (1) When such a system would be economically feasible;
- 12 (2) The forecasted demand, assessing whether the focus should be on
- 13 passenger travel or freight or both;
- 14 (3) Identification of the corridors to be analyzed;
- 15 (4) Land use and economic development implications;
- 16 (5) Environmental considerations;
- 17 (6) The compatibility of such a system with regional transportation
- 18 plans along proposed corridors;
- 19 (7) Impacts on and interfaces with other travel modes;
- 20 (8) Technological options for high-speed ground transportation,
- 21 both foreign and domestic;
- 22 (9) Required specifications for speed, safety, access, and
- 23 frequency;
- 24 (10) Identification of existing highway or railroad rights of way
- 25 that are suitable for high-speed travel;
- 26 (11) Identification of additional rights of way that may be needed
- 27 and the process for acquiring those rights of way;

1 (12) The recommended institutional arrangement for carrying out
2 detailed planning for such a system, for constructing it, and for
3 operating it;

4 (13) Whether financing of construction should be public or private
5 or some combination of both;

6 (14) Whether financing of operations should be public or private or
7 some combination of both;

8 (15) If public sector financing for any portion of capital or
9 operation costs is deemed necessary, which existing or new tax sources
10 would be appropriate.

11 The steering committee shall coordinate its work with that of the
12 air transportation commission established in RCW 47.86.030."

13 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The steering committee shall seek to
14 obtain private sector contributions at least equal to the amount of
15 state funds appropriated for this purpose in section 9 of this act.
16 All such contributions shall be deposited in the state treasury to the
17 credit of department of transportation, to be expended in accordance
18 with the provisions of section 9 of this act."

19 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** In order to provide technical and
20 administrative support to the steering committee, the office of high-
21 speed ground transportation is created within the department of
22 transportation. That office may contract with consultants at the
23 direction of the steering committee and shall provide other support
24 functions as requested by the committee."

25 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The steering committee shall present a
26 final report to the governor, the legislature, and the transportation
27 commission by October 15, 1992. It shall present interim progress

1 reports as appropriate. The final report must include findings of the
2 steering committee, a recommended plan for implementation, and proposed
3 legislation to implement the next phase of a high-speed ground
4 transportation program."

5 "Sec. 8. RCW 47.86.030 and 1990 c 298 s 41 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The commission shall conduct studies to determine Washington's
8 long-range air transportation policy, including an assessment of
9 intermodal needs, and to assess the impacts of increasing air traffic
10 upon surrounding communities, including an evaluation of noise
11 mitigation and surface transportation impacts at existing facilities,
12 and the potential impact at new or expanded facilities.

13 The studies shall include, but are not limited to the following:

14 (1) The feasibility of acquiring the Stampede Pass rail line for
15 use as a utility corridor, intermodal high speed transportation
16 corridor or other transportation uses. The study shall include an
17 examination of the ownership of the Stampede Pass rail line right of
18 way and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of preserving the
19 Stampede Pass rail line corridor. It shall include interested public
20 and private agencies when conducting the study. The commission shall
21 encourage local communities and the private sector to financially
22 participate in the study. The commission shall make a presentation of
23 the feasibility findings to the legislative transportation committee on
24 or before December 1, 1990.

25 (2) Recommendations to the legislature on future Washington state
26 air transportation policy, including the expansion of existing and
27 potential air carrier and reliever facilities and the siting of such
28 new facilities, specifically taking into consideration intermodal
29 needs. The commission shall consider the development of wayports in

1 eastern Washington, taking into account similar developments in Japan
2 and Germany, in order to reduce congestion resulting from rapid growth
3 in the Puget Sound region. The commission shall (~~examine high speed~~
4 ~~rail transportation systems, including but not limited to magnetic~~
5 ~~levitation trains, personal rapid transit systems, and complimentary~~
6 ~~transportation systems, using to the extent possible the existing~~
7 ~~rights of way along I-90, I-5, and the Stampede Pass rail corridor~~)
8 coordinate its study of airport siting policy issues with the efforts
9 of the high-speed ground transportation steering committee.

10 The commission shall submit findings and recommendations to the
11 legislative transportation committee by December 1, 1994, with an
12 interim report to be presented to the legislative transportation
13 committee by December 1, 1992."

14 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. The sum of five hundred thousand
15 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from
16 the transportation fund to the department of transportation program T,
17 for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, to carry out the purposes of
18 this act. The appropriation shall be expended in accordance with the
19 work plan developed by the high-speed ground transportation steering
20 committee created in section 2 of this act: PROVIDED, That no more
21 than seventy-five thousand dollars may be expended before the
22 department of transportation receives one or more contributions from
23 the private sector, in accordance with the provisions of section 5 of
24 this act, totaling five hundred thousand dollars or more."

25 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Sections 1 through 7 of this act shall
26 expire December 31, 1992."

