

1701

Sponsor(s): Representatives Rockefeller, Haigh, Jackley, Eickmeyer, Quall, Lantz, Woods, McDermott, McIntire, Murray, Barlean and Poulsen

Brief Description: Considering additional factors in passenger-only ferry fares.

HB 1701 - DIGEST

Requires the department and the commission to take into account the public benefit derived from encouraging the availability and use of passenger-only ferry service, including but not limited to:

(1) The long-term environmental and economic benefit from providing a reliable, reasonably priced alternative for moving people over Washington's navigable waterways and the resulting reduction in automobile traffic;

(2) The necessity for up-front investment to build the passenger-only ferry service into a viable component of the transportation choices available to Washington's citizens;

(3) The potential savings to the state from avoided investment in cross-sound vehicular transportation; and

(4) The stimulus to balanced economic development to western Puget Sound and island communities served by the ferry system.