
Transportation Committee

HB 1479

Brief Description: Authorizing the ferry system to use alternative public works contracting procedures.

Sponsors: Representatives Sullivan, Ericksen, Rockefeller, Miloscia and Woods; by request of Department of Transportation.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows the Washington State Ferries access to alternative public works contracting procedures.
- Enables the Washington State Ferries to use the "general contractor/construction manager" contracting procedure for large capital projects.

Hearing Date: 2/20/03

Staff: Jay Alexander (786-7339).

Background:

Alternative public works contracting procedures are allowable to certain, authorized entities when awarding contracts on public works until July 1, 2007. The two allowed procedures are the "design-build" and "general contractor/construction manager" (GCCM) procedures. The design-build procedure is a multi-step competitive process to award a contract for a single firm to design and construct a public facility or portion of a public facility that meets certain criteria. The GCCM procedure is a multi-step competitive process to award a contract for a single firm to provide services during the design phase of a public works project, that meets certain criteria, as well as acting as both the construction manager and general contractor during the construction phase of the project. The contractor guarantees the project budget, or maximum allowable construction costs.

The specific entities currently authorized to use alternative public works contracting procedures include the Department of General Administration; the University of Washington; Washington State University; every city with a population greater than 70,000 and any public authority chartered by such city, meeting certain criteria; every county with a population greater than 450,000; every port district with total revenues greater than \$15 million per

year; every public utility district with revenues from energy sales greater than \$23 million per year; and school districts proposing projects that are considered and approved by the school district project review board under RCW 39.10.115.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) currently has the authority to enter into design-build contracts for highway and ferry construction projects. The authority was granted to the DOT in Chapter 226, Laws of 2001. This authority expires April 30, 2008.

Summary of Bill:

The Department of Transportation State Ferry system is added to the state and local entities authorized to participate in alternative public works contracting procedures as outlined in RCW 39.10.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 12, 2003.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.