5527-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Highways & Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Horn and Haugen; by request of Governor Locke)

Brief Description: Coordinating local transportation boards.

SB 5527-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that an integrated transportation system is a necessity and recommends that streamlined operations and agency efficiencies be accomplished whenever possible.

Declares an intent to create a local boards coordinated program that efficiently combines the staff and local technical services of the transportation improvement board and the county road administration board. To provide leadership for the coordinated program, the legislature creates a local boards coordinating committee comprised of the secretary, or a designee, and two executive members of each board.

Requires the coordinated committee and program executive director to take advantage of the technical, electronic, and process advancements of both boards; ensure that projects, funding, and programs currently in process are not adversely affected; and identify and pursue innovations that may emerge through the transition process.

Recognizes that the transportation improvement board and county road administration board provide innovative solutions to increasing funding challenges faced by local transportation agencies. The boards and their respective programs and services are retained in full and strengthened by a single staff that provides one-stop technical and grant services to local customers.