

6545

Sponsor(s): Senators Schmidt, Eide and Esser

Brief Description: Exempting from public disclosure certain records filed with the utilities and transportation commission.

SB 6545 - DIGEST

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 2/17/04)

Provides that, if a request for access to records that contain valuable commercial information is received by the commission, the owner of the information must be notified of the request. Within ten business days of receipt of the notice, the owner of the information shall provide a written statement of the continuing need for confidentiality, which shall be provided to the requester.

Provides that, upon receipt of such notice, the commission and the attorney general shall continue to treat information designated under this act as exempt from disclosure.

Declares that, if the requester initiates a court action to compel disclosure under chapter 80.04 RCW, the owner of the information must be joined as a party to that action.

Requires a person initiating such court action to demonstrate:
(1) Actual and pressing need to obtain the information; and
(2) That the release of such information is in the public interest.