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**Transportation Committee**

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**HB 1867**

**Brief Description:** Increasing penalties in safety corridors.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Fromhold, Wallace and Moeller.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Allows the traffic safety commission to designate safety corridors where fines are doubled for speeding infractions.

**Hearing Date:** 2/12/07

**Staff:** David Munnecke (786-7315).

**Background:**

The corridor traffic safety program is a joint effort of the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) and the Washington State Department of Transportation, with the WTSC acting as the lead agency. The program is designed to reduce collisions on designated corridors through the use of low-cost, near-term solutions including increased signage and increased enforcement of existing traffic laws.

In determining if a section of roadway or a set of roadways should be designated as a safety corridor, the WTSC determines if there is statistical evidence that the section or set of roadways has a significant crash problem and if there is interest on the local level in undertaking a safety corridor project.

**Summary of Bill:**

In the case of section of roadway or set of roadways that are already a part of the corridor traffic safety program, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) is empowered to designate a safety corridor by rule. However, in order to do so, there must be statistical evidence that the corridor has a greater number of crashes as compared to similarly designed and located corridors.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Any person found to have committed an infraction related to speed restrictions on a safety corridor designated by rule by the WTSC will be assessed double the usual monetary penalty for such an infraction. This penalty cannot be waived, reduced, or suspended.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 9, 2007.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect January 1, 2008.