

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6304

As of January 13, 2010

Title: An act relating to siting of large commercial airports.

Brief Description: Regulating siting of large commercial airports.

Sponsors: Senator Keiser.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Amanda Cecil (786-7429)

Background: All cities, counties, and towns that have a general aviation airport are to discourage the siting of incompatible uses surrounding the airport in their comprehensive plans. Counties and cities that plan under the Growth Management Act must also include in their comprehensive plans a process for identifying and siting essential public facilities. General aviation airports are considered essential public facilities. No local comprehensive plan or development regulation may preclude the siting of essential public facilities.

Summary of Bill: A primary commercial service airport is an airport that receives scheduled passenger service and enplanes 10,000 or more passengers annually. Every county, city, and town in which there is a planned primary commercial service airport must include in their comprehensive plans and development regulations the creation of aviation protection zones of at least 7 miles around the future facility. Incompatible uses may not be sited within this zone. Incompatible uses can include: housing, K-12 educational facilities, and hospitals. All plans and regulations must be filed with WSDOT.

\$250,000 is provided from the multimodal - state account for WSDOT to hire an independent consultant to identify the location of the next primary commercial service airport.

Appropriation: \$250,000 from the Multimodal Account.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.