

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6375

As of February 5, 2014

Title: An act relating to the sale of in-vehicle electronic toll collection system equipment.

Brief Description: Concerning the sale of in-vehicle electronic toll collection system equipment.

Sponsors: Senators Roach and Schoesler.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/04/14.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Clint McCarthy (786-7319)

Background: There are three tolled facilities in Washington State: the SR 16 Tacoma Narrows Bridge, the SR 520 floating bridge, and the SR 167 high occupancy toll lanes. Motorists may open and use a "Good To Go!" account to use all tolled facilities in Washington State. "Good To Go!" accounts that utilize electronic toll equipment known as transponders are pre-paid accounts that allow motorists to pay the lowest toll rate on tolled facilities. "Good To Go!" transponders may be purchased online, at customer service centers, and at participating retail stores in areas near the tolled facilities.

Summary of Bill: The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) must post signs near all tolled facilities to inform motorists where transponders are sold. WSDOT may advertise retailers that sell transponders if private businesses pay for the cost of manufacturing and maintaining the sign. "Good To Go!" transponders must be made available for sale through automated vending machines at all rest areas located on Interstate 5 and Interstate 90.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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

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.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: OTHER: There is an interest in addressing infrequent users of tolled facilities. WSDOT has pay-by-mail and short-term accounts. WSDOT would like to be able to make tolling information available at rest areas. WSDOT has concerns with building new infrastructure on SR 520 and the traffic issues that might be caused.

Persons Testifying: OTHER: Craig Stone, WSDOT, Assistant Secretary, Toll Division.