

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1782

68th Legislature
2023 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 14, 2023
Yeas 96 Nays 0

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 31, 2023
Yeas 48 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1782** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1782

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By Representatives McEntire and Fey

Read first time 02/07/23. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the operating and maintenance deficit of the
2 Wahkiakum county ferry; and amending RCW 47.56.720.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.56.720 and 1992 c 82 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that the ferry operated by Wahkiakum
7 county between Puget Island and Westport on the Columbia river
8 provides (~~service which is primarily local in nature with secondary~~
9 ~~benefits to the state highway system in providing a bypass for state~~
10 ~~route 4 and providing~~) an important transportation bypass for state
11 route 4 and provides the only crossing of the Columbia river between
12 the Astoria-Megler bridge and the Longview bridge.

13 (2) The department is hereby authorized to enter into a
14 continuing agreement with Wahkiakum county pursuant to which the
15 department shall pay to Wahkiakum county from moneys appropriated for
16 such purpose monthly amounts not to exceed (~~eighty~~) 85 percent of
17 the operating and maintenance deficit with a maximum not to exceed
18 the amount appropriated for that biennium to be used in the operation
19 and maintenance of the Puget Island ferry, commencing July 1, 1992.

20 (3) The annual deficit, if any, incurred in the operation and
21 maintenance of the ferry shall be determined by Wahkiakum county

1 subject to the approval of the department. If ((~~eighty~~)) 85 percent
2 of the deficit for the preceding fiscal year exceeds the total amount
3 paid to the county for that year, the additional amount shall be paid
4 to the county by the department upon the receipt of a properly
5 executed voucher. ((~~The total of all payments to the county in any~~
6 ~~biennium shall not exceed the amount appropriated for that~~
7 ~~biennium.~~)) The fares established by the county shall be comparable
8 to those used for similar runs on the state ferry system.

9 (4) Whenever, subsequent to June 9, 1977, state route 4 between
10 Cathlamet and Longview is closed to traffic pursuant to chapter 47.48
11 RCW due to actual or potential slide conditions and there is no
12 suitable, reasonably short alternate state route provided, Wahkiakum
13 county is authorized to operate the Puget Island ferry on a toll-free
14 basis during the entire period of such closure. The state's share of
15 the ferry operations and maintenance deficit during such period shall
16 be ((~~one hundred~~)) 100 percent.

17 (5) Whenever state route 4 between Cathlamet and Longview is
18 closed to traffic, as mentioned in subsection (4) hereof, the state
19 of Washington shall provide temporary rest room facilities at the
20 Washington ferry landing terminal.

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