

2 SHB 2848 - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Transportation

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 47.05 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 Recognizing the importance of maintaining the quality of life in
10 Washington state, the citizens of this state demand protection and
11 preservation of our scarce natural resources. Citizens also demand an
12 efficient and effective transportation system. The departments of
13 transportation and ecology have worked jointly to develop a reasonable
14 approach to assessing environmental impacts of significant
15 transportation projects. Nevertheless, many transportation projects
16 are costing more than was budgeted, due to unanticipated and extensive
17 environmental considerations. It is the intent of the legislature to
18 find a process for assessing, budgeting, and accounting for
19 environmental costs related to significant transportation projects. In
20 evaluating the environmental elements of significant transportation
21 projects, the department shall consider a broad array of alternatives
22 including new technologies.

23 Therefore, the department of transportation shall undertake a pilot
24 program in at least one transportation district that will serve as a
25 case study for the department. The purpose of the pilot program is to
26 define those discrete environmental elements of all significant
27 transportation projects within the selected pilot transportation
28 district that can be isolated and priced. The department of

1 transportation shall at a minimum include estimates for wetlands, storm
2 water, air, hazardous waste, and fish barriers.

3 It is the intent of the legislature that the environmental cost
4 estimates be developed during a detailed scoping process that will
5 include preliminary engineering and design. The public shall have an
6 opportunity to review all significant transportation projects within
7 the designated pilot district, through the public hearing process
8 during the scoping process. After the detailed scoping process,
9 project-specific recommendations and cost estimates shall be submitted
10 by January 1, 1994, to the office of financial management, the
11 legislative transportation committee, and the transportation commission
12 for review.

13 In addition, the departments of transportation and ecology shall
14 perform a joint study, which shall be overseen by a steering committee
15 consisting of members of the house and senate transportation committees
16 to be appointed by the legislative transportation committee. The study
17 shall (1) provide a comprehensive review of all federal, state, and
18 local environmental laws and regulations that affect state highway
19 improvements; (2) provide an analysis of the increased costs and delays
20 directly attributable to local environmental ordinances; and (3)
21 provide an analysis of the potential liability property owners incur
22 for pollution on their property regardless of the origin of the
23 pollution.

24 The study shall include recommendations on how to address the
25 delays and increased costs due to environmental laws and regulations,
26 simplification of permitting processes, and other methods for
27 expediting the delivery of projects in a cost-efficient manner. The
28 study shall also address the issue of apportioning financial
29 responsibility for pollution caused by storm water runoff on state
30 highways. Estimates of state liabilities for treating contaminated

1 waters and sediments caused by state highway construction and
2 maintenance activities shall be provided.

3 The departments of transportation and ecology shall report to the
4 steering committee by June 1, 1992, on the status of the project and
5 shall complete their findings by December 31, 1992."

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9 In line 2 of the title, after "planning;" strike the remainder of
10 the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter 47.05 RCW."