
SENATE BILL 5319

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senator Benton

Read first time 01/19/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to preventing the extension of light rail from
2 Oregon to Washington on Interstate 5 between Portland and Vancouver;
3 adding a new section to chapter 47.01 RCW; and creating a new
4 section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the design
7 alternative selected by the state department of transportation, the
8 federal highway administration, and the federal transit
9 administration for a new Interstate 5 bridge that connects Vancouver,
10 Washington to Portland, Oregon is unacceptable.

11 (2) The legislature further finds that:

12 (a) The deadline has passed for submitting an application for new
13 starts funding and, therefore, it is unlikely that Washington state
14 would be able to construct or finance the project as designed;

15 (b) The inclusion of light rail in the design alternative results
16 in a cost increase to the project of over nine hundred twenty-five
17 million dollars for taxpayers;

18 (c) The people of Clark county voted in November 2012 not to fund
19 the costs of operating and maintaining light rail; and

1 (d) The design alternative will shift federal funds outside of
2 the design corridor in order to make numerous capital improvements in
3 transit for the state of Oregon at the expense of Washington state.

4 (3) Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that no funds
5 be spent to further the selected design alternative.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 The department is prohibited from expending funds on the design
9 or construction of any project that replaces the bridges on
10 Interstate 5 between Vancouver, Washington and Portland, Oregon and
11 includes light rail.

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