
SENATE BILL 6794

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Spanel, Shin, and Rockefeller; by request of Governor Gregoire

Read first time 01/24/08. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the procurement of new ferry vessels that carry
2 no more than one hundred motor vehicles; adding a new section to
3 chapter 47.56 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Washington's marine highways provide vital
6 transportation links between communities. Citizens, businesses, and
7 visitors depend on the state's ferry system to provide safe, dependable
8 auto and passenger service in order to conduct daily life and commerce
9 activities. On November 20, 2007, the secretary of the department of
10 transportation ordered the eighty-year old steel electric class vessels
11 to be immediately removed from service because previously undetected
12 corrosion and pitting in the vessel hulls posed a risk to the safety of
13 passengers and crew. The emergency removal of the state ferry system's
14 steel electric class vessels has imposed a significant hardship on the
15 citizens and businesses served by the Port Townsend-Keystone route.
16 The unique features of the Port Townsend-Keystone route prevent the
17 ferry system from assigning other state-operated auto/passenger vessels
18 to that route. Therefore, an expedited procurement is required for the

1 construction of new vessels to restore permanent auto/passenger ferry
2 service to the Port Townsend-Keystone route.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.56 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The department shall construct one or more new ferry vessels
6 for service on the Port Townsend-Keystone route or other routes that
7 require a vessel that carries no more than one hundred motor vehicles.
8 The department shall include in the procurement of the new vessels a
9 requirement that the vessels be constructed within the boundaries of
10 the state of Washington, except that equipment furnished by the state
11 and components, products, and systems that are standard manufactured
12 items are not subject to the in-state requirement under this
13 subsection.

14 (2) For purposes of this section, "constructed" means: The
15 fabrication, by the joining together by welding or fastening, of all
16 steel parts from which the total vessel is constructed including, but
17 not limited to, all shell frames, longitudinals, bulkheads, webs,
18 piping runs, wire ways, and ducting. "Constructed" also means (a) the
19 installation of all components and systems including, but not limited
20 to, equipment and machinery, castings, electrical, electronics, deck
21 covering, lining, paint, and joiner work required by the contract and
22 (b) the interconnection of all equipment, machinery, and services, such
23 as piping, wiring, and ducting.

24 (3) The procurement of the new ferry vessels must also include a
25 requirement that all warranty work on the vessels be performed within
26 the boundaries of the state of Washington, insofar as practicable.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
28 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
29 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
30 immediately.

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