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SENATE BILL 5090

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2013 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Rivers, Shin, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/17/13. 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 section.

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

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

10            (2) The legislature further finds that:

11            (a) The United States coast guard has not approved the design  
12 alternative due to a lack of clearance between the Columbia river and  
13 the bridge deck that inhibits the free movement of maritime freight;

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

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

1 (d) The design alternative will shift federal funds outside of the  
2 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 be  
5 spent to further the selected design alternative.

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

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

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