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SENATE BILL 5800

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Schlicher, Eide, and Rolfes

Read first time 02/15/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting the scope of the department of  
2 transportation's administration of the state's ferry system; adding a  
3 new section to chapter 47.60 RCW; creating a new section; and providing  
4 an effective date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the  
7 continuing operation and maintenance of the state ferry system is an  
8 integral part of Washington's economy. The legislature recognizes  
9 further that the department of transportation has dedicated substantial  
10 funds to designing, redesigning, constructing, and improving ferries  
11 and ferry facilities. In order to provide for the continuing viability  
12 of the ferry system, the legislature intends to limit the scope of the  
13 department's responsibilities and powers with regard to the ferry  
14 system to only the maintenance and operation of ferries and ferry  
15 facilities and the acquisition of new ferries or ferry facilities when  
16 directed by the legislature.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.60 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

1           (1) Beginning January 1, 2015, the department may not design,  
2 construct, or make substantial alterations to ferries or ferry  
3 facilities unless so directed by the legislature. For the purposes of  
4 this subsection, "substantial alterations" means any project that is  
5 anticipated to cost more than twenty-five percent of the fair market  
6 value of the ferry or ferry facility to be altered at the time of the  
7 alteration.

8           (2) This section does not limit the department's power to purchase  
9 or otherwise acquire ferries or ferry facilities.

10           NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect January 1, 2014.

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