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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1683**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Orwall, Dent, Stokesbary, Irwin, Pellicciotti, Reeves, and Hudgins)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a state commercial aviation  
2 coordinating commission; creating new sections; and providing  
3 expiration dates.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that with the  
6 increase in air traffic operations, combined with the projections for  
7 the rapid expansion of these operations in both the short and the  
8 long term, concerns regarding the environmental, health, social, and  
9 economic impacts of air traffic are increasing as well. The  
10 legislature also finds that advancing Washington's position as a  
11 national and international trading leader is dependent upon the  
12 development of a highly competitive, statewide passenger and cargo  
13 air transportation system. Therefore, the legislature seeks to  
14 identify a location for a new primary commercial aviation facility in  
15 Washington, taking into consideration the data and conclusions of  
16 appropriate air traffic studies, community representatives, and  
17 industry experts. Options for a new primary commercial aviation  
18 facility in Washington may include expansion of an existing airport  
19 facility. It is the intent of the legislature to establish a state  
20 commercial aviation coordinating commission to provide a location  
21 recommendation by January 1, 2021.

1 NEW SECTION.

**Sec. 2.**

(1) The state commercial aviation coordinating commission is created to carry out the functions of this chapter. The commission shall consist of sixteen voting members.

(2) The governor shall appoint eleven voting members to represent the following interests:

(a) Four as representatives of commercial service airports and ports, one of whom shall represent a port located in a county with a population of two million or more, one of whom shall represent a port in eastern Washington with an airport runway of at least thirteen thousand five hundred feet in length, one of whom shall represent a commercial service airport in eastern Washington located in a county with a population of four hundred thousand or more, and one representing an association of ports;

(b) Three as representatives from the airline industry and the private sector;

(c) A representative from an eastern Washington metropolitan planning organization;

(d) A representative from a western Washington metropolitan planning organization; and

(e) Two citizen representatives with one appointed from eastern Washington and one appointed from western Washington. The citizen appointees must:

(i) Represent the public interests in the communities that are included in the commission's site research; and

(ii) Understand the impacts of a large commercial aviation facility on a community.

(3) The remaining five members shall consist of:

(a) A representative from the department of commerce;

(b) A representative from the division of aeronautics of the department of transportation;

(c) The governor or the governor's designee;

(d) A representative from the freight forwarding industry; and

(e) A representative from the trucking industry.

(4) Nonvoting members shall include:

(a) A representative from the federal aviation administration;

(b) A representative from the Washington state aviation alliance;

(c) A representative from the department of defense;

(d) Two members from the senate, with one member from each of the two largest caucuses in the senate, appointed by the president of the senate; and

1 (e) Two members from the house of representatives, with one  
2 member from each of the two largest caucuses in the house of  
3 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
4 representatives.

5 (5) The governor may appoint additional nonvoting members as  
6 deemed appropriate.

7 (6) The commission shall select a chair from among its membership  
8 and shall adopt rules related to its powers and duties under this  
9 chapter.

10 (7) Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for  
11 travel expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on  
12 behalf of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization.  
13 Any reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to  
14 chapter 43.03 RCW. The commission has all powers necessary to carry  
15 out its duties as prescribed by this chapter.

16 (8) The department of transportation shall provide staff support  
17 for coordinating and administering the commission and technical  
18 assistance as requested by commission members.

19 (9) The governor or the governor's designee shall convene the  
20 initial meeting of the commission as soon as practicable.

21 (10) This section expires July 1, 2021.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The state commercial aviation  
23 coordinating commission shall review existing data and conduct  
24 research to determine Washington's long-range commercial aviation  
25 facility needs and the site of a new primary commercial aviation  
26 facility. Research for each potential site must include the  
27 feasibility of constructing a commercial aviation facility in that  
28 location and its potential environmental, community, and economic  
29 impacts. Options for a new primary commercial aviation facility in  
30 Washington may include expansion of an existing airport facility. The  
31 work of the commission shall include the following:

32 (a) Recommendations to the legislature on future Washington state  
33 long-range commercial aviation facility needs; and

34 (b) Identifying a preferred location for a new primary commercial  
35 aviation facility. The commission shall make recommendations and  
36 shall select a single preferred location by a two-thirds majority  
37 vote using the following process:

38 (i) Initiating a broad review of potential sites;

1 (ii) Recommending a final short list of no more than six  
2 locations by January 1, 2020;

3 (iii) Identifying the top two locations from the final six  
4 locations by September 1, 2020; and

5 (iv) Identifying a single preferred location for a new primary  
6 commercial aviation facility by January 1, 2021.

7 (2) The commission shall submit findings and recommendations to  
8 the transportation committees of the legislature by January 1, 2021.

9 (3) This section expires July 1, 2021.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The state commercial aviation  
11 coordinating commission shall project a timeline for the development  
12 of an additional commercial aviation facility that is completed and  
13 functional by 2040.

14 (2) This section expires July 1, 2021.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) When assessing future Washington state  
16 long-term commercial aviation facility needs under this act, the  
17 state commercial aviation coordinating commission's recommendations  
18 must be consistent with the department of transportation's long-term  
19 air transportation study. Nothing in this act shall be construed to  
20 endorse, limit, or otherwise alter existing or future plans for  
21 capital development and capacity enhancement at existing commercial  
22 airports in Washington.

23 (2) This section expires July 1, 2021.

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