

HB 2096 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

Action Date: 05/18/23

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Revenue. (Printed A-Eng.)

House Vote

Yeas: 7 - Boshart Davis, Evans, Helfrich, Mannix, McLain, Nathanson, Pham K

Senate Vote

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Findley, Frederick, President Wagner

Exc: 1 - Woods

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/16, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits a road authority to allow a person to operate a vehicle as part of a parade that is otherwise prohibited from operating on road, provided the vehicle is operated under approval and conditions of the road authority and complies with weight and size limits established by federal or state statute or by rule. Revises requirements for Highway Cost Allocation Study (HCAS) to include examination of most recent study period to determine accuracy of published HCAS results, and of prospective study period based on projected data. Specifies report on HCAS is to be made to Joint Committee on Transportation. Directs Department of Administrative Services to submit report analyzing at least the three most recent iterations of HCAS to evaluate proportionate share paid by users of each vehicle class. Sunsets January 2, 2025. Eliminates tiers based on track length or public ownership of railroads that establish distinctions between types of short line railroads for the purpose of determining the amount of tax credit allowed for rehabilitation of short line railroads. Applies to tax years beginning January 1, 2024 or later. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of proposed amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Every two years, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Office of Economic Analysis performs a Highway Cost Allocation Study to determine the proportional responsibility of passenger vehicles and heavy trucks for maintenance, preservation, and modernization costs of the state's highway system. The results of the study are used to set statutory weight-mile taxes on trucks for the following biennium.

House Bill 2096 A is an omnibus policy measure that includes three separate provisions. First, the measure clarifies language that allows road authorities to permit operation of vehicles on road that would otherwise not be permitted to do so, provided that the operation is under the authority's conditions and in compliance with state and federal law. Second, the measure revises the requirement of the biennial Highway Cost Allocation Study, requires DAS to review a minimum of the last three versions of the study, and mandates a report to the Joint Committee on Transportation. Finally, House Bill 2096 A eliminates the distinction between types of short line railroads with regard to tax credits allowed for their rehabilitation.