

Submitter: Devon Lawson-McCourt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2692

Co-Chair Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice-Chair Boquist and Boshart Davis, and members of the Committee.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB5520, which directs the Department of Transportation to work with Washington State Department of Transportation and British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to develop plans to operate and fund rail transportation.

I believe that transportation is a critical issue for my district, and I am committed to working towards solutions that improve our transportation system, including the development of rail transportation.

This bill provides a clear direction to the Department of Transportation to collaborate with our neighboring province, British Columbia, to develop plans to operate and fund rail transportation. This collaboration is not only critical for our region's economy but also for the reduction of carbon emissions, improving air quality, and promoting sustainable transportation alternatives.

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to submit a biennial report on plans to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to transportation, ensuring that there is transparency and accountability in the process.

I urge you to vote in favor of SB5520, which will provide a framework for a sustainable transportation system that will benefit our district and our region for years to come.