HOUSE BILL NO. 530

INTRODUCED BY R. ERICKSON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES AND SELECT AND DESIGNATE SEGMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION ON HIGHWAYS IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL GROWTH POLICIES; AND AMENDING SECTION 60-2-110, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

        Section 1. Section 60-2-110, MCA, is amended to read:
        "60-2-110.   Setting priorities and selecting projects. (1) Except as provided in 60-2-133, the commission shall establish priorities and select and designate segments for construction and reconstruction on the national highway system, the primary highway system, the secondary highway system, the urban highway system, and state highways.
        (2) The priorities and segments selected and designated for construction and reconstruction must be in accordance with the growth policy for the affected area, if a growth policy has been adopted pursuant to Title 76, chapter 1.
        (2)(3) The commission shall consult with the board of county commissioners of the county in which a highway is located when establishing priorities and when selecting and designating segments on the secondary highway system for construction and reconstruction.
        (3)(4) The commission shall consult with the appropriate local government authorities when establishing priorities and selecting and designating segments on the urban highway system for construction and reconstruction.
        (4)(5) The commission shall use information gathered or discovered by and documents prepared by the department, and department officials and employees shall provide assistance and advice.
        (5)(6) The commission shall establish and determine priorities and projects for rail and transit programs and, to the extent possible, coordinate intermodal transportation within the state.
        (6)(7) In carrying out the requirements of this section, the department shall:
        (a) make recommendations to the commission;
        (b) establish the requirements and procedures for administering this section; and

(c) take all reasonable steps to ensure the integrity and viability of agricultural and rural transportation and related needs."

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