

Washington State Senate

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Senator Mary Margaret Haugen

10th Legislative District

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July 11, 2005

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Carol Washburn, Executive Secretary 1300 S. Evergreen Park DR SW Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Docket TS-050443

Dear Ms. Washburn:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Feet Wet Partners' proposed passenger-only ferry service between Whidbey Island, Camano Island, and Mukilteo. This service will meet the growing needs of county residents, commuters, inter-island travelers, and tourists.

Private passenger-only ferry service from Oak Harbor to Mukilteo will fill an existing void in our transportation system by offering an alternative southern route for commuters to reach a regional multimodal hub at Mukilteo. Such service would also be a welcome alternative to driving the 1.5-hour route for residents of Camano Island to the Island County seat at Coupeville.

With congestion ever increasing due to construction and the explosive growth of the region, passenger-only ferry service will play an important role in linking Island County communities with one another and points south.

I encourage you to approve Feet Wet Partners' application.

Sincerely,

Mary Margaret Hauger State Senator, 10th LD

Senate Transportation Chairman