
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4434

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Chandler and Linville

Read first time 02/20/98. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Ecology.

1 WHEREAS, A citizen suit filed under the federal Clean Water Act has
2 sought enforcement of the provisions of the federal act regarding
3 violations of water quality standards in bodies of water and segments
4 of streams in this state; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency has
6 agreed to a settlement of that suit that provides for the
7 implementation, over the next one and one-half decades, of the
8 provisions of the federal act regarding total maximum daily loads for
9 those bodies of water and stream segments; and

10 WHEREAS, The executive branch of state government has entered into
11 an agreement with the federal agency to provide a program for
12 implementing the settlement with the state's Department of Ecology
13 acting as the lead agency for that implementation; and

14 WHEREAS, Conducting the program will involve the dedication of a
15 considerable amount of state resources and the products of the program
16 have the potential for affecting in very significant ways citizens and
17 a broad range of communities, from urban to silvicultural and
18 agricultural, and their equally broad range of interests; and

19 WHEREAS, It is essential that the legislature examine all aspects
20 of the department's program for implementing the settlement, including
21 but not limited to, an examination of the decisions that affect how

1 water quality problems are defined, the causes of those problems, and
2 the means by which solutions to these problems are to be developed and
3 implemented;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of
5 the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That a joint select
6 committee on water quality be appointed to examine these decisions,
7 causes, solution development, and other aspects of the department's
8 program to implement the settlement and to engage this state's
9 communities, industries, interest groups, and citizens in this
10 examination; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee be composed
12 of three members of the House of Representatives selected by the
13 Speaker of the House of Representatives, two from the majority party
14 caucus in the House of Representatives and one from the minority party
15 caucus in the House of Representatives, and three members of the Senate
16 appointed by the President of the Senate, two from the majority party
17 caucus in the Senate and one from the minority party caucus in the
18 Senate; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the members of the joint select
20 committee select cochairs of the committee, one from the House of
21 Representatives and one from the Senate and that staff support for the
22 joint select committee be provided by the office of program research
23 and Senate committee services; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee report its
25 recommendations to the legislature at the regular session held in 1999.

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