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**Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Committee**

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**HB 2263**

**Brief Description:** Regarding the phosphorus content in dishwashing detergent.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Blake, Moeller, Orcutt and Newhouse.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Focuses the location of where a person may sell or distribute for sale dishwashing detergent with 0.5 percent or more phosphorus by weight to counties east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains where the population is less than 600,000 but greater than 390,000.

**Hearing Date:** 2/26/07

**Staff:** Jaclyn Ford (786-7339).

**Background:**

Phosphorous is a naturally occurring element that stimulates plant growth. When introduced into freshwater, phosphorous promotes growth of weeds and algae and can degrade water quality.

The sale of laundry detergent that contains 0.5 percent or more phosphorous by weight, and the sale of dishwashing detergent that contains more than 8.7 percent phosphorous by weight is prohibited [RCW 70.95L.020].

The sale of dishwashing detergent that contains 0.5 percent or more phosphorous by weight is prohibited after July 1, 2008 in counties with populations greater than 180,000 and less than 220,000 and in counties with populations greater than 390,000 and less than 650,000. Beginning July 1, 2010, the restriction on the sale of dishwashing detergent that contains 0.5 percent or more phosphorous by weight is effective statewide [RCW 70.95L.020].

The sale and distribution of detergents for commercial and industrial uses are exempt from the phosphorus limitation [RCW 70.95L.020].

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Summary of Bill:**

Beginning July 1, 2008, dishwashing detergent may not be sold if it contains 0.5 percent or more phosphorus by weight in counties located east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains where the population is less than 600,000 but greater than 390,000.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.