# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

## **Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee**

### **SB 5259**

**Brief Description:** Modifying provisions governing the sale of unneeded park land.

**Sponsors:** Senators Jacobsen and Morton; by request of Parks and Recreation Commission.

#### **Brief Summary of Bill**

• Changes the process through which the State Parks and Recreation Commission may sell unneeded park land so that it can accept sealed bids, electronic bids, or oral bids at an auction.

#### **Hearing Date:**

Staff: Jason Callahan (786-7117).

#### **Background:**

The State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) is authorised to dispose of any lands found by the Commission to not serve the purposes of the agency [RCW 79A.05.175]. Most lands designated by the unanimous consent of the Commission for disposal must be sold to the highest bidder, through a sealed bidding process, or exchanged for lands of equal value. Final conveyance of sold or exchanged lands must be executed by the Governor.

All land sales must be advertised in a local newspaper at least 20 days before the sealed bids are required to be delivered. If the sealed bids are not acceptable to the Commission, it may reject the bids and solicit a new round using the same process.

The proceeds from land sales must be deposited into the Park Land Acquisition Account.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

The process by which the Commission may conduct sales of unneeded park land is changed so that the Commission is not limited to only accepting sealed bids. Instead, the Commission may

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accept sealed bids, electronic bids, or oral bids at an auction. All bid solicitation, regardless of the bid format, must still be advertised in a local paper.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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

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