
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5236

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation
(originally sponsored by Senators Parlette, Fraser and Rockefeller)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to public lands management; and adding a new
2 section to chapter 79A.25 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.25 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group is
7 established. The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must
8 include representatives from the committee, the state parks and
9 recreation commission, the department of natural resources, and the
10 Washington state department of fish and wildlife. The members of the
11 habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must have subject
12 matter expertise with the issues presented in this section.
13 Representatives from appropriate stakeholder organizations and local
14 government must also be considered for participation on the habitat and
15 recreation lands coordinating group.

16 (2) To ensure timely completion of the duties assigned to the
17 habitat and recreation lands coordinating group, the director shall
18 submit yearly progress reports to the office of financial management.

19 (3) The habitat and recreation lands coordinating group must:

1 (a) Review agency land acquisition and disposal plans and policies
2 to help ensure statewide coordination of habitat and recreation land
3 acquisitions and disposals;

4 (b) Produce an interagency, statewide biennial forecast of habitat
5 and recreation land acquisitions and disposal plans;

6 (c) Establish procedures for publishing the biennial forecast of
7 acquisition and disposal plans on web sites or other centralized,
8 easily accessible formats;

9 (d) Develop and convene an annual forum for agencies to coordinate
10 their near-term acquisition and disposal plans;

11 (e) Develop a recommended method for interagency geographic
12 information system-based documentation of habitat and recreation lands
13 in cooperation with other state agencies using geographic information
14 systems;

15 (f) Develop recommendations for standardization of acquisition and
16 disposal recordkeeping, including identifying a preferred process for
17 centralizing acquisition data;

18 (g) Develop an approach for monitoring the success of acquisitions;

19 (h) Identify and commence a dialogue with key state and federal
20 partners to develop an inventory of potential public lands for transfer
21 into habitat and recreation land management status;

22 (i) Review existing and proposed habitat conservation plans on a
23 regular basis to foster statewide coordination and save costs.

24 (4) The group shall revisit the committee's and Washington wildlife
25 and recreation program's planning requirements to determine whether
26 coordination of state agency habitat and recreation land acquisition
27 and disposal could be improved by modifying those requirements.

28 (5) The group must develop options for centralizing coordination of
29 habitat and recreation land acquisition made with funds from federal
30 grants. The advantages and drawbacks of the following options, at a
31 minimum, must be developed:

32 (a) Requiring that agencies provide early communication on the
33 status of federal grant applications to the committee, the office of
34 financial management, or directly to the legislature;

35 (b) Establishing a centralized pass-through agency for federal
36 funds, where individual agencies would be the primary applicants.

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