

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5118

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As of February 9, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to the definition of biofuel.

**Brief Description:** Modifying the definition of biofuel.

**Sponsors:** Senator Honeyford.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Environment, Water & Energy: 2/10/09.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, WATER & ENERGY

**Staff:** Sam Thompson (786-7413)

**Background:** Renewable fuel standards enacted in 2006 require that at least 2 percent of diesel fuel annually sold in Washington be biodiesel fuel. "Biodiesel fuel" is defined as certain esters derived from plant or animal matter that meet requirements established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and standards established by the American Society of Testing and Materials. The definition does not encompass "non-ester renewable diesel" or "renewable diesel," any of several petroleum diesel fuel substitutes produced from renewable feedstock that are not esters. It is suggested that this fuel has similar qualities to (and certain advantages over) biodiesel as defined in current law, and that it should be authorized to meet renewable fuel requirements.

**Summary of Bill:** The definition of "biodiesel fuel" in state renewable fuel standards is revised to include diesel fuel substitutes produced from nonfossil renewable resources that meet registration requirements for fuels and fuel additives established by EPA and standards established by the American Society of Testing and Materials.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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