
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6163

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senate Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development (originally sponsored by Senators Ericksen, Swecker, Hatfield, and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to directing the department of ecology to
2 coordinate discussions with the province of British Columbia to study
3 the feasibility of providing new water supplies and storage to benefit
4 residents of western Washington; creating a new section; and providing
5 an expiration date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The department of ecology shall
8 coordinate with the water stewardship division of the ministry of
9 environment for the province of British Columbia, Canada, to study and
10 evaluate the feasibility of providing new water supplies and storage
11 from Harrison lake and Ross lake to benefit residents of western
12 Washington in the areas of water management, economic development,
13 fishery resource management, and agricultural production. The
14 department of ecology is also encouraged to coordinate with federal
15 agencies including, but not limited to, the United States state
16 department, the United States department of the interior, and the
17 bureau of reclamation.

18 (2) By December 1, 2012, and within existing resources, the
19 department of ecology shall report its findings and recommendations to

1 the governor and the legislature consistent with RCW 43.01.036. The
2 report must include data and an analysis regarding the feasibility,
3 cost estimates, and any barriers to acquiring water rights from
4 Harrison lake for the benefit of residents of western Washington in the
5 areas of water management, economic development, fishery resource
6 management, and agricultural production.

7 (3) This section expires January 1, 2013.

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