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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5056**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senator Haugen)

Read first time 01/28/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to seaweed; adding new sections to chapter 79.01  
2 RCW; creating a new section; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the plant  
5 resources of marine aquatic ecosystems have inherent value and provide  
6 essential habitat. These resources are also becoming increasingly  
7 valuable as economic commodities and may be declining. The legislature  
8 further finds that the regulation of harvest of these resources is  
9 currently inadequate to afford necessary protection.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires  
11 otherwise, the definition in this section applies throughout this  
12 chapter.

13 "Marine aquatic plants" means marine plant species that are  
14 dependent upon the marine aquatic or tidal environment, and exist in  
15 either an attached or free-floating state. Marine aquatic plants  
16 include but are not limited to seaweed of the classes Chlorophyta,  
17 Phaeophyta, and Rhodophyta.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The maximum daily wet weight harvest or  
2 possession of seaweed for personal use from all private and state  
3 tidelands and state bedlands is ten pounds per person. The department  
4 of natural resources in cooperation with the department of fisheries  
5 may establish seaweed harvest limits of less than ten pounds for  
6 conservation purposes. The department of natural resources shall  
7 develop a seaweed management plan in cooperation with the department of  
8 fisheries for any seaweed species which is harvested.

9        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    A violation of section 3 of this act is a  
10 misdemeanor. All law enforcement officers, including fisheries patrol  
11 officers, may enforce this chapter.

12        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    Section 3 of this act shall in no way affect  
13 the ability of any state agency to prevent harvest of any specie of  
14 marine aquatic plant from lands under its control, ownership, or  
15 management. Sections 3 and 4 of this act do not apply to commercial  
16 harvest of marine aquatic plants.

17        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    Sections 2 through 5 of this act are each  
18 added to chapter 79.01 RCW.

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