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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2605**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1996 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville, Fuhrman, L. Thomas, Thompson, Regala, Basich, Quall, Hatfield, B. Thomas, Stevens, Sheldon and Buck)

Read first time 02/02/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to importation of *Macrocystis* seaweed; and amending  
2 RCW 79.01.805.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.01.805 and 1994 c 286 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) The maximum daily wet weight harvest or possession of seaweed  
7 for personal use from all aquatic lands as defined under RCW 79.90.010  
8 and all privately owned tidelands is ten pounds per person. The  
9 department of natural resources in cooperation with the department of  
10 fish and wildlife may establish seaweed harvest limits of less than ten  
11 pounds for conservation purposes. This section shall in no way affect  
12 the ability of any state agency to prevent harvest of any species of  
13 marine aquatic plant from lands under its control, ownership, or  
14 management.

15 (2) Except as provided under subsection (3) of this section,  
16 commercial harvesting of seaweed from aquatic lands as defined under  
17 RCW 79.90.010, and all privately owned tidelands is prohibited. This  
18 subsection shall in no way affect commercial seaweed aquaculture.

1 (3) Upon mutual approval by the department and the department of  
2 fish and wildlife, seaweed species of the genus *Macrocystis* may be  
3 commercially harvested for use in the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.

4 ~~(4) ((Seaweed species of the genus *Macrocystis* may not be imported  
5 after July 1, 1995, for use in the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.))~~  
6 Importation of seaweed species of the genus *Macrocystis* into Washington  
7 state for the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery is subject to the fish and  
8 shellfish disease control policies of the department of fish and  
9 wildlife. *Macrocystis* shall not be imported from areas with fish or  
10 shellfish diseases associated with organisms that are likely to be  
11 transported with *Macrocystis*. The department shall incorporate this  
12 policy on *Macrocystis* importation into its overall fish and shellfish  
13 disease control policies.

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