

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2797

55th Legislature
1998 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 10, 1998
Yeas 96 Nays 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 3, 1998
Yeas 48 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2797** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 2797

Passed Legislature - 1998 Regular Session

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Regala, Buck, Ogden, Tokuda, Hatfield and Kessler

Read first time 01/20/98. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing public participation in the
2 establishment of natural area preserves; amending RCW 79.70.070; and
3 adding a new section to chapter 79.70 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79.70.070 and 1994 c 264 s 62 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) The natural heritage advisory council is hereby established.
8 The council shall consist of fifteen members, (~~nine~~) ten of whom
9 shall be chosen as follows and who shall elect from the council's
10 membership a chairperson:

11 (a) Five individuals, appointed by the commissioner, who shall be
12 recognized experts in the ecology of natural areas and represent the
13 public, academic, and private sectors. Desirable fields of expertise
14 are biological and geological sciences; and

15 (b) (~~Four~~) Five individuals, appointed by the commissioner, who
16 shall be selected from the various regions of the state. At least one
17 member shall be or represent a private forest landowner and at least
18 one member shall be or represent a private agricultural landowner.

1 (2) Members appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall
2 serve for terms of four years.

3 (3) In addition to the members appointed by the commissioner, the
4 director of the department of fish and wildlife, the director of the
5 department of ecology, the supervisor of the department of natural
6 resources, the director of the state parks and recreation commission,
7 and the administrator of the interagency committee for outdoor
8 recreation, or an authorized representative of each agency officer,
9 shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the council.

10 (4) Any vacancy on the council shall be filled by appointment for
11 the unexpired term by the commissioner.

12 (5) In order to provide for staggered terms, of the initial members
13 of the council:

- 14 (a) Three shall serve for a term of two years;
- 15 (b) Three shall serve for a term of three years; and
- 16 (c) Three shall serve for a term of four years.

17 (6) Members of the natural preserves advisory committee serving on
18 July 26, 1981, shall serve as members of the council until the
19 commissioner appoints a successor to each. The successor appointment
20 shall be specifically designated to replace a member of the natural
21 preserves advisory committee until all members of that committee have
22 been replaced. A member of the natural preserves advisory committee is
23 eligible for appointment to the council if otherwise qualified.

24 (7) Members of the council shall serve without compensation.
25 Members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW
26 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now or hereafter amended.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 79.70 RCW
28 to read as follows:

29 The department shall hold a public hearing in the county where the
30 majority of the land in a proposed natural area preserve is located
31 prior to establishing the boundary.

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