

2340

Sponsor(s): Representatives Thompson, Mulliken, Pennington, Gardner, Romero, Backlund, Anderson, Lambert, Boldt and Lantz

Brief Title: Providing wetlands technical assistance to owners of wetlands.

HB 2340 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Provides that, at the request of a property owner, the permit assistance center shall provide technical assistance on wetlands issues by: (1) Assisting property owners in identifying whether wetlands are present and the general location and extent of wetlands on the property in question;

(2) assisting property owners in identifying the federal, state, and local permits and regulations that may apply to the property;

(3) reviewing wetland determinations and delineations and providing a nonbinding evaluation of whether the decisions are technically correct; and

(4) facilitating the resolution of disputes between the property owner and governmental agencies on wetlands issues.

Requires that, by December 1, 2000, the center shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of both houses of the legislature detailing the following information regarding the provision of technical assistance on wetlands issues: (1) The number of instances in which the assistance of the center has been requested and the type of assistance requested;

(2) an evaluation of the value of the service to property owners and governmental agencies; and

(3) recommendations for any changes needed to make the assistance more effective.