

2 **SHB 2462** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Environmental Quality & Water Resources

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that state and
8 national goals are to use maximum efforts to protect and restore
9 surface waters so that they are swimmable and fishable. Recreational
10 use of public waters is an important part of the lives of Washington
11 citizens, yet individuals as well as governmental agencies each have a
12 responsibility to use judgment and to take action to minimize health
13 risks from such recreational use. Therefore, it is the intent of the
14 legislature that state and local public health officials increase their
15 efforts in reviewing water quality information that indicates an
16 elevated health risk for direct contact recreational use. It is
17 further the intent of the legislature that the appropriate health
18 officials take action to inform the public when surface waters
19 frequently used for recreation pose elevated risks to public health.
20 The notification tools which should be considered include posting signs
21 at public access points, mailing, and public service announcements in
22 print and electronic media.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of health, in
24 consultation with jurisdictional health departments and the department
25 of ecology, may recommend to the board of health a model program for
26 public health standards for surface waters. The program adopted by the
27 board shall be implemented by the department of health and
28 jurisdictional health departments.

29 (2) The components of the model program shall include, but shall
30 not be limited to:

31 (a) Facilitating state agencies, local governments, and citizens
32 that conduct surface water quality monitoring in providing notice to
33 local health jurisdictions when public health standards are exceeded;

34 (b) Identification and establishment of public health threshold
35 standards for surface waters. The threshold standards shall be based

1 on specific bacterial and other pollutant parameters and surveys as
2 well as monitoring information regarding pollution loading in surface
3 waters;

4 (c) Guidance for identifying and inventorying surface waters
5 subject to frequent use for recreation by the public;

6 (d) Guidance for local health departments to respond to information
7 about contamination;

8 (e) Guidance on public information resources to employ when a
9 threat to public health is identified, such as posting of water
10 identified as posing a risk to public health, public service
11 announcements through print and electronic media, or other public
12 notification measures; and

13 (f) Guidance for conducting public education activities relating to
14 safe recreational use of surface waters and which may include
15 information regarding common sources of bacterial contamination to
16 waters frequently used for recreational activities.

17 (3) The model program shall be submitted to the board of health by
18 December 1, 2000, and the board shall adopt a program through rules by
19 June 1, 2001."

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23 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "monitoring;" strike the
24 remainder of the title and insert "and creating new sections."

EFFECT: Directs the board of health to adopt a model program for
public health standards for surface waters. The model program shall
also be adopted by the department of health and local health
departments.

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