

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5670

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C 11 L 99 E1

Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Creating criteria for the issuance of water quality permits for the treatment of noxious weeds.

**Sponsors:** Senators Snyder and Rasmussen.

**Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation**

**House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology**

**Background:** Spartina is classified as an aquatic noxious weed. The Department of Agriculture is primarily responsible for controlling Spartina. In doing so, it is required to apply to the Department of Ecology for a permit to apply certain experimental herbicides. The Department of Ecology sets the conditions for application.

**Summary:** The application of herbicides and surfactants registered to control Spartina and other noxious weeds, subject to certain specified conditions of application and water quality criteria is authorized. Permits for such applications are valid for five years.

Application of experimental herbicides is also authorized. Those applications are exempt from the State Environmental Policy Act.

The Department of Agriculture may add assessments of possible herbicide application changes to the existing environmental impact statement, rather than issuing a new statement.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	46	0
House	70	26 (House amended)
Senate		(Senate refused to concur)

First Special Session

Senate	45	0
House	93	1

**Effective:** June 7, 1999