## HOUSE BILL 1228

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Hatfield, Cairnes, Doumit, Eickmeyer, Kessler, G. Chandler, Sump and Schoesler

Read first time 01/19/1999. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to department of fish and wildlife negotiations; 2 adding a new section to chapter 75.08 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. The legislature finds that:

5 (1) The department of fish and wildlife is mandated by RCW 6 75.08.012 to promote, enhance, and improve recreational and commercial 7 fishing in this state;

8 (2) This mandate applies to all biological aquatic resources 9 whether fish, shellfish, or other forms of harvestable aquatic life;

(3) This mandate requires the consideration and representation of
 all those who might wish to harvest biological aquatic resources,
 including nontreaty, non-Indian fishers and harvesters; and

(4) The department has failed to adequately represent the interests
of nontreaty, non-Indian fishers and harvesters when the department has
dealt with treaty Indian fishers and harvesters.

16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 75.08 RCW 17 to read as follows: 1 Whenever the department of fish and wildlife engages in any sort of 2 negotiation or agreement with treaty Indian fishers or harvesters, the 3 department of fish and wildlife shall include, to serve as an observer 4 only, a representative of nontreaty, non-Indian fishers or harvesters 5 from each user group potentially affected by the agreement or 6 negotiation, on a case-by-case basis, for each biological aquatic 7 resource involved with a harvest agreement or negotiation.

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