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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1681**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**1999 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Buck, Grant, Sump, Schoesler, Boldt, Mastin and McMorris)

Read first time 03/02/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to state purchase of privately grown trout for  
2 planting in state waters; adding new sections to Title 77 RCW; making  
3 an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is beneficial  
6 to improve opportunities for trout fishing in order to satisfy the  
7 public's demand for recreational fishing during a time of declining  
8 opportunities to catch anadromous salmon and steelhead trout.

9 Fish farmers can produce trout in a triploid genetic configuration  
10 for the purpose of certifying that the fish are sterile and that they  
11 cannot interbreed with wild trout. These fish are ideally suited to  
12 planting into public lakes and ponds to provide immediate recreational  
13 fishing at a reasonable cost. The fish continue to grow throughout  
14 their life cycle and have the potential to grow to trophy size.

15 Planting of these catchable trout can provide increased angler  
16 participation, increased fishing license sales, increased tourism  
17 activities, and a boost to local economies.

18 The department of fish and wildlife is authorized to purchase these  
19 privately produced fish to supplement existing department trout  
20 hatchery production. The planting of these catchable trout in water

1 bodies with water quality sufficient to support fish life must not have  
2 an adverse impact on the wild trout population.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The fish and wildlife commission in  
4 consultation with the department is authorized to determine which  
5 waters of the state are appropriate for this use during the 1999 and  
6 2000 calendar years. In making this determination, the commission  
7 shall seek geographic distribution to assure opportunity to fishers  
8 state-wide.

9 The commission in consultation with the department will determine  
10 the maximum number of fish that may be planted into state waters so as  
11 not to compete with the wild populations of fish species in the water  
12 body.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department shall report to the  
14 appropriate legislative committees by February 1, 2001, regarding the  
15 implementation of this act. The report shall include information  
16 regarding the location and number of fish planted, the size of the fish  
17 planted, and information relating to the cost-effectiveness of the  
18 catchable trout program, including an estimate of new license sales  
19 generated by the programs.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of . . . . ., but not to exceed  
21 \$200,000 dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is  
22 appropriated from the general fund to the department of fish and  
23 wildlife for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, to carry out the  
24 purposes of this act.

25 The sum of . . . . ., but not to exceed \$200,000 dollars, or so  
26 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund  
27 to the department of fish and wildlife for the fiscal year ending June  
28 30, 2000, to carry out the purposes of this act.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each  
30 added to Title 77 RCW.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
32 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
2 immediately.

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