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SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1681

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1999 Regular Session

State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      1999 Regular Session

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

Read first time 03/08/1999.

1            AN ACT Relating to state purchase of privately grown trout for  
2 planting in state waters; adding new sections to Title 77 RCW; creating  
3 a new section; 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

1 hatchery production. The planting of these catchable trout in water  
2 bodies with water quality sufficient to support fish life must not have  
3 an adverse impact on the wild trout population.

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

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

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The fish and wildlife commission may  
15 authorize purchase of privately produced fish for the purposes of  
16 sections 1 and 2 of this act only if the cost of the program will be  
17 recovered by the estimated increase in revenue from license sales and  
18 federal funds directly attributable to the planting of these privately  
19 purchased fish.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of fish and wildlife shall  
21 report to the appropriate legislative committees by February 1, 2001,  
22 regarding the implementation of this act. The report shall include  
23 information regarding the location and number of fish planted, the size  
24 of the fish planted, and information relating to the cost-effectiveness  
25 of the catchable trout program, including an estimate of new license  
26 revenues generated by the programs.

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

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
30 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
31 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
32 immediately.

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