

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5676

C 78 L 05

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Requiring oil spill contingency plans to include shellfish beds.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Environment (originally sponsored by Senators Poulsen, Kline, Shin, Spanel, Fraser and Kohl-Welles).

Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Environment

House Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks

Background: The legislature enacted oil spill prevention and response measures in 1991 to promote the safety of marine transportation and protect state waters from oil spills. The Director of the Department of Ecology has the primary authority to oversee prevention, abatement, response, containment, and cleanup efforts for oil spills in state waters.

The oil spill program requires oil spill prevention plans, contingency response plans, and documentation of financial responsibility for vessels and facilities that may discharge oil into navigable waters.

Owners and operators of onshore and offshore facilities must prepare and submit oil spill contingency and prevention plans. The plans are valid for five years and may be combined into a single document. Facilities may opt to submit contingency plans for tank vessels unloading at the facility

Summary: Shellfish beds are added to the list of natural resources to be considered for facility and vessel oil spill contingency planning purposes.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	47	0
House	93	1

Effective: July 24, 2005