
SENATE BILL 6443

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senators Fairley, Oke, Fraser, Quigley, Snyder, Kohl, Owen, Rinehart, Pelz, Franklin, Wood, Spanel, Prentice, Thibaudeau, Drew and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/15/96. Referred to Committee on Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to leasing of seabeds for oil and gas exploration;
2 and amending RCW 43.143.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.143.010 and 1995 c 339 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The purpose of this chapter is to articulate policies and
7 establish guidelines for the exercise of state and local management
8 authority over Washington's coastal waters, seabed, and shorelines.

9 (2) There shall be no leasing of Washington's tidal or submerged
10 lands extending from mean high tide seaward three miles along the
11 Washington coast from Cape Flattery south to Cape Disappointment, nor
12 in Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, and the Columbia river downstream from
13 the Longview bridge, for purposes of oil or gas exploration,
14 development, or production (~~until at least July 1, 2000. During the~~
15 ~~2000 legislative session, the legislature shall determine whether the~~
16 ~~moratorium on leasing should be extended past July 1, 2000. This~~
17 ~~determination shall be based on the information available at that time,~~
18 ~~including the analysis described in RCW 43.143.040. If the legislature~~
19 ~~does not extend the moratorium on leasing, the moratorium will end on~~

1 ~~July 1, 2000. At any time that oil or gas leasing, exploration, and~~
2 ~~development are allowed to occur, these activities shall be required to~~
3 ~~meet or exceed the standards and criteria contained in RCW~~
4 ~~43.143.030)).~~

5 (3) When conflicts arise among uses and activities, priority shall
6 be given to resource uses and activities that will not adversely impact
7 renewable resources over uses which are likely to have an adverse
8 impact on renewable resources.

9 (4) It is the policy of the state of Washington to actively
10 encourage the conservation of liquid fossil fuels, and to explore
11 available methods of encouraging such conservation.

12 (5) It is not currently the intent of the legislature to include
13 recreational uses or currently existing commercial uses involving
14 fishing or other renewable marine or ocean resources within the uses
15 and activities which must meet the planning and review criteria set
16 forth in RCW 43.143.030. It is not the intent of the legislature,
17 however, to permanently exclude these uses from the requirements of RCW
18 43.143.030. If information becomes available which indicates that such
19 uses should reasonably be covered by the requirements of RCW
20 43.143.030, the permitting government or agency may require compliance
21 with those requirements, and appeals of that decision shall be handled
22 through the established appeals procedure for that permit or approval.

23 (6) The state shall participate in federal ocean and marine
24 resource decisions to the fullest extent possible to ensure that the
25 decisions are consistent with the state's policy concerning the use of
26 those resources.

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