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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1655

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State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Sump, Doumit, Pearson, Rockefeller and Clements)

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of an advisory committee to the  
2 fish and wildlife commission composed of disabled individuals; and  
3 adding a new section to chapter 77.04 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.04 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The commission must appoint an advisory committee to generally  
8 represent the interests of disabled hunters and fishers on matters  
9 including, but not limited to, special hunts, modified sporting  
10 equipment, access to public land, and hunting and fishing  
11 opportunities. The advisory committee is composed of seven members,  
12 each being a person with a disability. The advisory committee members  
13 must represent the entire state. The members must be appointed so that  
14 each of the six department administrative regions, as they existed on  
15 January 1, 2001, are represented with one resident on the advisory  
16 committee. One additional member must be appointed at large. The  
17 chair of the advisory committee must be a member of the advisory  
18 committee and shall be selected by the members of the advisory  
19 committee.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, a person with a disability  
2 includes but is not limited to:

3 (a) A permanently disabled person who is not ambulatory over  
4 natural terrain without a prosthesis or assistive device;

5 (b) A permanently disabled person who is unable to walk without the  
6 use of assistance from a brace, cane, crutch, wheelchair, scooter,  
7 walker, or other assistive device;

8 (c) A person who has a cardiac condition to the extent that the  
9 person's functional limitations are severe;

10 (d) A person who is restricted by lung disease to the extent that  
11 the person's functional limitations are severe;

12 (e) A person who is totally blind or visually impaired; or

13 (f) A permanently disabled person with upper or lower extremity  
14 impairments who does not have the use of one or both upper or lower  
15 extremities.

16 (3) The members of the advisory committee are appointed for a four-  
17 year term. If a vacancy occurs on the advisory committee prior to the  
18 expiration of a term, the commission must appoint a replacement within  
19 sixty days to complete the term.

20 (4) The advisory committee must meet at least semi-annually, and  
21 may meet at other times as requested by a majority of the advisory  
22 committee members for any express purpose that directly relates to the  
23 duties set forth in subsection (1) of this section. A majority of  
24 members currently serving on the advisory committee constitutes a  
25 quorum. The department must provide two staff support persons for all  
26 official advisory committee meetings.

27 (5) Each member of the advisory committee shall serve without  
28 compensation but may be reimbursed for travel expenses as authorized in  
29 RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

30 (6) The members of the advisory committee, or individuals acting on  
31 their behalf, are immune from civil liability for official acts  
32 performed in the course of their duties.

33 (7) The provisions of this section constitute a pilot program that  
34 expires July 1, 2005. On December 1, 2004, the commission shall  
35 present a report to the appropriate legislative committees detailing  
36 the effectiveness of the advisory committee, including but not limited  
37 to, the participation levels, general interest, quality of advice, and

1 recommendations as to the advisory committee's continuance or  
2 modification.

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