
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1239

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Fisheries, Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Cooper, Sump, Dunshee, Kenney, Veloria, Haigh, Berkey, Lantz and Rockefeller)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to the commercial harvest of geoduck clams;
2 creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) There is created a legislative task
5 force to study and make recommendations regarding geoduck management
6 and harvest rules. The task force is composed of the following
7 members:

8 (a) Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the
9 speaker of the house of representatives to include one member from each
10 of the two largest political caucuses;

11 (b) Two members of the senate appointed by the president of the
12 senate to include one member from each of the two largest political
13 caucuses;

14 (c) The chair of the house of representatives' fisheries, ecology
15 and parks committee and the chair of the house of representatives'
16 agriculture and natural resources committee; and

17 (d) The chair of the senate parks, fish, and wildlife committee and
18 the senate natural resources, energy, and water committee.

1 (2) The task force must elect a chair and agree upon procedures for
2 conducting the business of the task force. The task force may
3 establish an advisory committee of stakeholders including but not
4 limited to representatives from treaty Indian tribes, the aquaculture
5 industry, geoduck divers, private shoreline property owners, the
6 department of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources,
7 the department of health, the department of agriculture, local
8 government, or other affected stakeholders. Staff support for the task
9 force must be provided by the house of representatives' office of
10 program research and senate committee services.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** By December 1, 2003, the task force
12 established in section 1 of this act must report to the legislature
13 with recommendations concerning the following issues:

14 (1) Improvements for the coordinated management of the geoduck
15 resource;

16 (2) The costs and benefits of implementing a limited entry geoduck
17 diver license;

18 (3) Improvements for compliance and enforcement with geoduck
19 harvest rules on state and nonstate-owned lands;

20 (4) Improvements to state rules for geoduck harvesting; and

21 (5) The state's potential role in aquaculture and reseedling of
22 geoduck clams.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act expires January 1, 2004.

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