

**SB 5447-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that, in order to further promote the sustainability of the coastal Dungeness crab resource, the coastal crab fleet, and coastal communities, the legislature intends for the department of fish and wildlife to develop a proposed coastal Dungeness buyback program that would be implemented in cooperation with the federal government upon future legislative direction.

Requires the proposed program to explore funding alternatives that involve federal funding, state funding, funding provided by Dungeness crab-coastal license holders, low-interest loans to license holders, and combinations thereof.

Requires the proposed program to be designed to have a neutral impact on Dungeness crab harvests in the state and federal waters off the coasts of Oregon and California.

Provides that, by December 1, 2007, the department shall provide a report detailing the program to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the senate and house of representatives.

Provides that the proposed program developed under this act is not authorized to be implemented, and state funds are not authorized to be expended, without further specific legislative authorization.

Expires December 31, 2007.