

**SB 5748-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Requires the department, in consultation with the ballast water work group, or similar collaborative forum, to adopt by rule standards for the discharge of ballast water into the waters of the state and their implementation timelines. The standards are intended to ensure that the discharge of ballast water poses minimal risk of introducing nonindigenous species. In developing these standards, the department shall consider the extent to which the requirement is technologically and practically feasible. Where practical and appropriate, the standards must be compatible with standards set by the United States coast guard, the federal clean water act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251-1387), or the international maritime organization.

Authorizes the department to issue a special operating authorization for passenger vessels conducting or assisting in research and testing activities to determine the presence of invasive species in ballast water collected in the waters of southeast Alaska north of latitude fifty-four degrees thirty minutes north to sixty-one degrees ten minutes north, extending to longitude one hundred forty-nine degrees thirty minutes west. Such testing and research shall be reviewed by the ballast water work group and the findings included in the report to the legislature referenced in this act.

Repeals RCW 77.120.060, 77.120.080, and 77.120.090.