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**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5214**

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**State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Wilson, Zeiger, and Schoesler

AN ACT Relating to adding responsibilities to the duties of the joint administrative rules review committee; amending RCW 34.05.630; and adding a new section to chapter 34.05 RCW.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 34.05.630 and 1998 c 21 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) All rules required to be filed pursuant to RCW 34.05.380, and emergency rules adopted pursuant to RCW 34.05.350, are subject to selective review by the committee. The committee must review a rule:

(a) Upon receipt of a petition for review signed by at least fifteen members of the legislature;

(b) If the rule has an economic impact of ten million dollars or more; or

(c) Upon receipt of a petition for review signed by five or more local governments representing collectively fifty thousand or more Washington residents.

(2) All agency policy and interpretive statements, guidelines, and documents that are of general applicability, or their equivalents, are subject to selective review by the committee to determine whether or not a statement, guideline, or document that is of general applicability, or its equivalent, is being used as a rule that has not been adopted in accordance with all applicable provisions of law.

(3) If the rules review committee finds by a majority vote of its members: (a) That an existing rule is not within the intent of the legislature as expressed by the statute which the rule implements, (b) that the rule has not been adopted in accordance with all applicable provisions of law, or (c) that an agency is using a policy or interpretive statement in place of a rule, the agency affected shall be notified of such finding and the reasons therefor. Within thirty days of the receipt of the rules review committee's notice, the agency shall file notice of a hearing on the rules review committee's finding with the code reviser and mail notice to all persons who have made timely request of the agency for advance notice of its rule-making proceedings as provided in RCW 34.05.320. The agency's notice shall include the rules review committee's findings and reasons therefor, and shall be published in the Washington state register in accordance with the provisions of chapter 34.08 RCW.

(4) The agency shall consider fully all written and oral submissions regarding (a) whether the rule in question is within the intent of the legislature as expressed by the statute which the rule implements, (b) whether the rule was adopted in accordance with all applicable provisions of law, and (c) whether the agency is using a policy or interpretive statement, guideline, or document that is of general applicability, or its equivalent, in place of a rule.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 34.05 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The following agency actions are subject to selective review by the committee to ensure consistency with the agency's adopted guidelines, administrative regulations for issuing a permit, or both:

(a) General permits impacting local governments filed in accordance with agency rules; and

(b) Guidance documents and advisory materials incorporated into local government ordinances.

(2) The committee must review an agency action:

(a) Upon receipt of a petition for review signed by at least fifteen members of the legislature;

(b) If the action has an economic impact of ten million dollars or more; or

(c) Upon receipt of a petition for review signed by five or more local governments representing collectively fifty thousand or more Washington residents.

(3) If the committee finds by a majority vote of its members that the issuance of a permit or the use of guidelines or advisory materials under subsection (1) of this section is not consistent with the agency's adopted guidelines, administrative regulations for issuing a permit, or both, the agency affected must be notified of the findings, the reasons for the findings, and all written and oral comments received during the review.

(4) Within thirty days of the receipt of the committee's findings, the agency must fully consider all written and oral comments received as a result of the committee review and provide a response to the committee addressing the comments and findings.

(5) Upon receipt of the agency response, the rules review committee must transmit the committee findings, comments received, and the agency response to the governor and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature.

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