

HOUSE BILL REPORT

ESSB 5947

As of Second Reading

Title: An act relating to the Columbia river salmon and steelhead endorsement program.

Brief Description: Concerning the Columbia river salmon and steelhead endorsement program.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senator Pearson).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

None.

Brief Summary of Engrossed Substitute Bill

- Extends the expiration date for the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Program (Program) to June 30, 2019.
- Specifies that Program funds may not be used for land acquisition.

Staff: Rebecca Lewis (786-7339).

Background:

Fishing Licenses Issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is responsible for the management of the state's fish and wildlife resources, and establishes basic rules and regulations governing the time, place, manner, and methods used to harvest or enjoy fish and wildlife. As a part of this responsibility, the Department issues licenses, tags, endorsements, and permits for hunting and fishing in Washington.

In order to fish in Washington, a person age 15 and older must purchase a fishing license. Categories of fishing licenses include freshwater licenses, saltwater licenses, and combination licenses. There are several endorsements, stamps, permits, or other surcharges required for particular activities in addition to a hunting or fishing license.

Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Program.

In order to fish for salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River or its tributaries, a person age 15 and older must purchase a Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

(Endorsement). The Endorsement costs \$7.50 and is available at a reduced rate of \$6 for seniors and for youth age 15. Endorsement revenue funds activities related to continuing and expanding selective fisheries in the Columbia River Basin. Such activities may include data collection, fisheries enforcement, and monitoring and evaluation. The Endorsement Program expires on June 30, 2017.

Summary of Bill:

The expiration date for the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Program (Program) is extended from June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2019. Program funds may not be used for land acquisition.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available on original bill.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) None.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: None.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.