## CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

## SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1257

65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 9, 2017 Yeas 98 Nays 0	CERTIFICATE
	I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is
Speaker of the House of Representatives	SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1257 as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon
Passed by the Senate March 31, 2017 Yeas 45 Nays 1	set forth.
President of the Senate	Chief Clerk
Approved	FILED
Governor of the State of Washington	Secretary of State State of Washington

## SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1257

Passed Legislature - 2017 Regular Session

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By House Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Kretz, Blake, Taylor, Fitzgibbon, and Buys)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/17.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the release of wild beavers; and amending RCW
- 2 77.32.585.

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- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.32.585 and 2012 c 167 s 2 are each amended to 5 read as follows:
- 6 (1) The department shall permit the release of wild beavers on public and private lands with agreement from the property owner.
- 8 (2) The department may limit the release of wild beavers to areas 9 of the state where:
- 10 (a) There is a low probability of released beavers becoming a 11 nuisance or causing damage;
- 12 (b) Conditions exist for released beavers to improve, maintain, 13 or manage stream or riparian ecosystem functions; and
  - (c) There is evidence of historic endemic beaver populations.
- 15 (3) The department may condition the release of beaver to 16 maximize the relocation's success and minimize risk. Factors that the 17 department may condition include:
- 18 (a) Stream gradient;
- 19 (b) Sufficiency of the water supply;
- 20 (c) Stream geomorphology;
- 21 (d) Adequacy of a food source;

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- 1 (e) Proper site elevation and valley width;
- 2 (f) Age of the beavers relocated;
- 3 (g) Times of year for capture and relocation;
- 4 (h) Requirements for the capture, handling, and transport of the 5 live beavers;
- 6 (i) Minimum and maximum numbers of beavers that can be relocated 7 in one area; and
- 8 (j) Requirements for the permit holder to initially provide 9 supplemental food and lodge building materials.
  - (4) The department may require:

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- 11 <u>(a) Specific training for those involved with capture, handling,</u>
  12 and release of beavers; and
- 13 <u>(b) The notification of any potentially affected adjacent</u> 14 landowners before permitting the release of wild beavers.
  - (5) Nothing in this section creates any liability against the state or those releasing beavers nor authorizes any private right of action for any damages subsequently caused by beavers released pursuant to this section.
- 19 (6) For the purposes of this section, "beaver" means the American 20 beaver (Castor canadensis).
  - (7) For the purposes of this section, beavers may only be released to carry out relocation: (a) Between two areas east of the crest of the Cascade mountains; or (b) ((from an)) between two areas west of the crest of the Cascade mountains ((to an area east of the crest of the Cascade mountains)).

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