

HB 2957.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Prohibits the department of natural resources from allowing nonnative marine finfish aquaculture as an authorized use under any new lease or other use authorization or from renewing or extending a lease or other use authorization, in existence on the effective date of this act, where the use includes nonnative marine finfish aquaculture.

Allows the department of fish and wildlife to authorize or permit activities associated with the use of marine net pens for nonnative marine finfish aquaculture, and allows the department of ecology to issue national pollutant discharge elimination system permits associated with nonnative marine finfish aquaculture, only if these activities are performed under a lease of state-owned aquatic lands in effect on the effective date of this act.

Requires the department of ecology, the department of agriculture, the department of fish and wildlife, and the department of natural resources to: (1) Continue the existing effort to update guidance and informational resources to industry and governments for planning and permitting commercial marine net pen aquaculture; and

(2) Design the guidance to eliminate commercial marine net pen escapement and negative impacts to water quality and native fish, shellfish, and wildlife.

Requires a facility operator, for marine finfish aquaculture, to hire a marine engineering firm approved by the department of fish and wildlife to conduct inspections.

Includes the following as a "dislocated worker," with regard to unemployment compensation claims: A person who has separated from employment as a result of this act.

VETO MESSAGE ON EHB 2957

March 22, 2018

To the Honorable Speaker and Members,
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 1, Engrossed House Bill No. 2957 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to reducing escape of nonnative finfish from marine finfish aquaculture facilities."

Section 1 is unnecessary to implement the bill and I do not agree with all the assertions made in this section.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 1 of Engrossed House Bill No. 2957.

With the exception of Section 1, Engrossed House Bill No. 2957 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Inslee
Governor