

1 5096-S2.E AMH AG H2725.1

2 **E2SSB 5096** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 4-18-91**

3 By Committee on Agriculture & Rural Development

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 15.04 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 The history, economy, culture, and the future of Washington state
10 to a large degree all involve agriculture, which is vital to the
11 economic well-being of the state. The legislature finds that farmers
12 and ranchers are responsible stewards of the land, but are increasingly
13 subjected to complaints and unwarranted restrictions that encourage,
14 and even force, the premature removal of lands from agricultural uses.

15 The legislature further finds that it is now in the overriding
16 public interest that support for agriculture be clearly expressed and
17 that adequate protection be given to agricultural lands, uses,
18 activities, and operations.

19 The legislature further finds that the department of agriculture
20 has a duty to promote and protect agriculture and its dependent rural
21 community in Washington state."

22 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 15.04 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 The department shall seek to enhance, protect, and perpetuate the
25 ability of the private sector to produce food and fiber. Additionally,
26 the department shall seek to maintain the economic well-being of the

1 agricultural industry and its dependent rural community in Washington
2 state."

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6 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "agriculture;" strike the
7 remainder of the title and insert "and adding new sections to chapter
8 15.04 RCW."