

HOUSE BILL REPORT

EHB 2360

*As Passed House
February 13, 1992*

Title: An act relating to the sale of informational materials by the department of fisheries.

Brief Description: Authorizing the sale of informational materials by the department of fisheries.

Sponsor(s): Representatives G. Cole, R. King and Basich; by request of Department of Fisheries.

Brief History:

Reported by House Committee on:
Fisheries & Wildlife, February 4, 1992, DPA;
Passed House, February 13, 1992, 89-0.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**

Majority Report: *Do pass as amended.* Signed by 10 members: Representatives R. King, Chair; Morris, Vice Chair; Wilson, Ranking Minority Member; Fuhrman, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; G. Cole; Haugen; Hochstatter; Orr; Padden; and Spanel.

Staff: Keitlyn Watson (786-7310).

Background: The Department of Fisheries currently does not have statutory authority to sell informational material to the public, other than that provided by RCW 42.17.300, which allows agencies to impose a reasonable charge for providing copies of public records. The charges may not exceed the actual cost of copying. The Department of Wildlife has statutory authority under RCW 77.12.185 to sell informational materials to recover the costs of publication.

The Department of Fisheries has published numerous informational materials for the public, several of which are out of date. The department wishes to update some of the more popular publications, and to cover the reasonable costs of doing so.

Summary of Bill: The director of the Department of Fisheries is authorized to collect moneys to recover the reasonable costs of drafting and publishing informational

materials. Reasonable costs are defined to include only costs of drafting, printing, distribution, and postage. Regulation pamphlets shall not be sold.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of the session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: (on original bill) This is necessary to update information that the public finds useful. Many existing publications are outdated.

Testimony Against: (on original bill - concerns were addressed in the amendments) Cost recovery could be interpreted broadly to include data gathering, and other activities.

Witnesses: Susan Markey, Department of Fisheries (in favor); and Steve Arbaugh, Puget Sound Gillnetters Association (opposed).