
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1455

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife (originally sponsored by Representatives Haugen, Wilson, Zellinsky, R. King, Spanel, R. Meyers, Leonard and Orr).

Read first time March 5, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to seaweed; adding new sections to chapter 75.08
2 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 79.01 RCW; creating a new section;
3 and prescribing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the plant
6 resources of marine aquatic ecosystems have inherent value and provide
7 essential habitat. These resources are also becoming increasingly
8 valuable as economic commodities and may be declining. The legislature
9 further finds that the regulation of harvest of these resources is
10 currently inadequate to afford necessary protection.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
12 otherwise, the definition in this section applies throughout this
13 chapter.

1 "Marine aquatic plants" means marine plant species that are
2 dependent upon the marine aquatic or tidal environment, and exist in
3 either an attached or free-floating state. Marine aquatic plants
4 include seaweed of the classes Chlorophyta, Phaeophyta, and Rhodophyta.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The maximum daily wet weight harvest or
6 possession of seaweed for personal use from all private and state
7 tidelands and state bedlands is ten pounds per person.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A violation of section 3 of this act is
9 a misdemeanor. All law enforcement officers, including fisheries
10 patrol officers, may enforce this chapter.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 3 of this act shall in no way
12 affect the ability of any state agency to prevent all harvest of marine
13 aquatic plants from lands under its control, ownership, or management.
14 Sections 3 through 6 of this act do not apply to commercial harvest of
15 marine aquatic plants.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The department of fisheries, the
17 department of natural resources, and the state parks and recreation
18 commission shall explore the possibility of private funding sources for
19 marine aquatic plant research, in order to find out more about the
20 resource.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Unless the context clearly requires
22 otherwise, the definition in this section applies throughout this
23 chapter.

24 "Marine aquatic plants" means marine plant species that are
25 dependent upon the marine aquatic or tidal environment, and exist in

1 either an attached or free-floating state. Marine aquatic plants
2 include seaweed of the classes Chlorophyta, Phaeophyta, and Rhodophyta.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The maximum daily wet weight harvest or
4 possession of seaweed for personal use from all private and state
5 tidelands and state bedlands is ten pounds per person.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A violation of section 8 of this act is
7 a misdemeanor. All law enforcement officers, including fisheries
8 patrol officers, may enforce this chapter.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Section 8 of this act shall in no way
10 affect the ability of any state agency to prevent all harvest of marine
11 aquatic plants from lands under its control, ownership, or management.
12 Sections 8 through 11 of this act do not apply to commercial harvest of
13 marine aquatic plants.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The department of fisheries, the
15 department of natural resources, and the state parks and recreation
16 commission shall explore the possibility of private funding sources for
17 marine aquatic plant research, in order to find out more about the
18 resource.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** Sections 2 through 6 of this act are
20 each added to chapter 75.08 RCW.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** Sections 7 through 11 of this act are
22 each added to chapter 79.01 RCW.