
HOUSE BILL 2159

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris and R. King.

Read first time March 4, 1991. Referred to Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife.

1 AN ACT Relating to sturgeon; adding new sections to chapter 75.12
2 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the sturgeon
5 fishery is declining and that limiting the commercial and recreational
6 harvest of and preventing the sale of sturgeon may improve the status
7 of this fishery in state waters.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.12 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 Until the director has established that sturgeon populations are
11 increasing significantly, the director shall eliminate in state waters
12 all commercial fisheries that target sturgeon. It shall be unlawful to
13 sell any sturgeon taken incidentally to a lawful commercial target
14 fishery for another species. Once the director makes a determination

1 that sturgeon populations are increasing, the director shall designate
2 the sturgeon fishery as an emerging commercial fishery under RCW
3 75.30.220.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 75.12 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The director shall examine the effect of the recreational fishery
7 on sturgeon populations and shall make adjustments in recreational
8 harvest if necessary to increase sturgeon populations.