
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5083

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators L. Smith, Snyder, Oke and Rasmussen).

Read first time March 1, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to the reestablishment of salmon hatcheries; adding
2 new sections to chapter 75.52 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The once abundant salmon runs of the
5 Toutle river were destroyed by the eruption of Mount St. Helens. The
6 department of fisheries has experimented by releasing salmon into
7 Toutle river tributaries. They have found that the river conditions
8 have sufficiently improved since the eruption of Mount St. Helens to
9 allow for productive salmon hatchery operation. The legislature finds
10 that it is of prime importance to reestablish the Toutle river fish
11 runs by reopening the Toutle river hatcheries.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.52 RCW
13 to read as follows:

1 To the extent that federal funds are available or to the extent
2 that state funds are appropriated for that purpose, the department
3 shall reconstruct and operate the previously state-funded salmon
4 hatcheries in the Toutle river watershed at their maximum production
5 capacity level. In no case shall the department's Toutle river
6 watershed hatcheries be reduced below the level of operation in effect
7 on January 1, 1991.

8 The hatchery system on the Toutle river shall be operated in such
9 a manner as to ensure that adult salmon are allowed to migrate upstream
10 of the hatchery for natural spawning purposes.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of fisheries shall
12 request full funding from the federal government for the reconstruction
13 and operation of the Green river salmon hatchery, located on the Green
14 river tributary to the Toutle river. The Green river hatchery shall
15 operate at full productive capacity. The department shall work with
16 the Washington congressional delegation in order to achieve full
17 funding for the Toutle river salmon hatchery program.

18 If full funding of the Green river hatchery is not made available
19 to the department by the federal government, the department shall
20 submit a report by December 1, 1991, to the senate committee on
21 environment and natural resources and the house of representatives
22 committee on fisheries and wildlife. The report shall describe the
23 efforts of the department to secure federal funding for the hatchery,
24 and shall describe the priorities used by the department to allocate
25 salmon hatchery funding in light of the failure to obtain federal
26 funding.