

SENATE BILL 5083

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators L. Smith, Snyder, Oke and Rasmussen.

Read first time January 18, 1991. Referred to Committee on Environment & Natural Resources.

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 The department shall reconstruct and operate the previously state-
2 funded salmon hatcheries in the Toutle river watershed at their maximum
3 production capacity level.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of fisheries shall
5 request full funding from the federal government for the reconstruction
6 and operation of the Green river salmon hatchery, located on the Green
7 river tributary to the Toutle river. The Green river hatchery shall
8 operate at full productive capacity. The department shall work with
9 the Washington congressional delegation in order to achieve full
10 funding for the Toutle river salmon hatchery program.