

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6324

Chapter 251, Laws of 1998

55th Legislature
1998 Regular Session

FISH ENHANCEMENT WITH REMOTE SITE INCUBATORS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/11/98

Passed by the Senate March 9, 1998
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 4, 1998
YEAS 97 NAYS 0

CLYDE BALLARD

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved April 1, 1998

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6324** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MIKE O'CONNELL

Secretary

FILED

April 1, 1998 - 2:50 p.m.

GARY LOCKE

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6324

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1998 Regular Session

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Morton, Rasmussen, Oke, Swecker and West)

Read first time 02/05/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to fish enhancement with remote site incubators;
2 adding a new section to chapter 75.50 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that trout and salmon
5 populations are depleted in many state waters. Restoration of these
6 populations to a healthy status requires improved protection of these
7 species and their habitats. However, in some instances restoration of
8 self-sustaining populations also requires the reintroduction of the
9 fish into their native habitat.

10 Remote site incubators have been shown to be a cost-effective means
11 of bypassing the early period of high mortality experienced by salmonid
12 eggs that are naturally spawned in streams. In addition, remote site
13 incubators provide an efficient method for reintroduction of fish into
14 areas that are not seeded by natural spawning. The technology for
15 remote site incubators is well developed, and their application is
16 easily accomplished in a wide variety of habitat by persons with a
17 moderate level of training.

18 It is a goal of the remote site incubator program to assist the
19 reestablishment of wild salmon and trout populations that are self-

1 sustaining through natural spawning. In other cases, where the habitat
2 has been permanently damaged and natural populations cannot sustain
3 themselves, the remote site incubator program may become a cost-
4 effective long-term solution for supplementation of fish populations.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.50 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The department shall develop and implement a program utilizing
8 remote site incubators in Washington state. The program shall identify
9 sites in tributaries that are suitable for reestablishing self-
10 sustaining, locally adapted populations of coho, chum, or chinook
11 salmon. The initial selection of sites shall be completed by July 1,
12 1999, and updated annually thereafter.

13 (2) The department may only approve a remote site incubator project
14 if the department deems it is consistent with the conservation of wild
15 salmon and trout. The department shall only utilize appropriate
16 salmonid eggs in remote site incubators, and may acquire eggs by gift
17 or purchase.

18 (3) The department shall depend chiefly upon volunteer efforts to
19 implement the remote site incubator program through volunteer
20 cooperative projects and the regional fisheries enhancement groups.
21 The department may prioritize remote site incubator projects within
22 regional enhancement areas.

23 (4) The department may purchase remote site incubators and may use
24 agency employees to construct remote site incubators. The director and
25 the secretary of the department of corrections shall jointly
26 investigate the potential of producing remote site incubators through
27 the prison industries program of the department of corrections, and
28 shall jointly report their finding to the natural resources committees
29 of the house of representatives and the senate by December 1, 1999.

30 (5) The department shall investigate the use of the remote site
31 incubator technology for the production of warm water fish.

32 (6) The department shall evaluate the initial results of the
33 program and report to the legislature by December 1, 2000. Annual
34 reports on the progress of the program shall be provided to the fish
35 and wildlife commission.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
37 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by

1 June 30, 1998, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
2 void.

Passed the Senate March 9, 1998.

Passed the House March 4, 1998.

Approved by the Governor April 1, 1998.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 1, 1998.