

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1565**

Chapter 415, Laws of 1997

55th Legislature  
1997 Regular Session

SMALL SCALE PROSPECTING AND MINING--REVISIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/27/97

Passed by the House April 26, 1997  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

CLYDE BALLARD  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 26, 1997  
Yeas 42 Nays 1

BRAD OWEN  
**President of the Senate**

Approved May 19, 1997

GARY LOCKE  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1565** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

TIMOTHY A. MARTIN  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 19, 1997 - 7:24 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1565**

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Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session  
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1997 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Mielke, Pennington, Carrell, Mulliken, Thompson and Cairnes)

Read first time 03/05/97.

1            AN ACT Relating to small scale prospecting and mining; adding a new  
2 section to chapter 75.20 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 small scale  
5 prospecting and mining: (1) Is an important part of the heritage of  
6 the state; (2) provides economic benefits to the state; and (3) can be  
7 conducted in a manner that is beneficial to fish habitat and fish  
8 propagation. Now, therefore, the legislature declares that small scale  
9 prospecting and mining shall be regulated in the least burdensome  
10 manner that is consistent with the state's fish management objectives  
11 and the federal endangered species act.

12           NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14           (1) Small scale prospecting and mining shall not require written  
15 approval under this chapter if the prospecting is conducted in  
16 accordance with provisions established by the department.

17           (2) By December 31, 1998, the department shall adopt rules  
18 applicable to small scale prospecting and mining activities subject to

1 this section. The department shall develop the rules in cooperation  
2 with the recreational mining community and other interested parties.

3 (3) Within two months of adoption of the rules, the department  
4 shall distribute an updated gold and fish pamphlet that describes  
5 methods of mineral prospecting that are consistent with the  
6 department's rule. The pamphlet shall be written to clearly indicate  
7 the prospecting methods that require written approval under this  
8 chapter and the prospecting methods that require compliance with the  
9 pamphlet. To the extent possible, the department shall use the  
10 provisions of the gold and fish pamphlet to minimize the number of  
11 specific provisions of a written approval issued under this chapter.

12 (4) For the purposes of this chapter, "small scale prospecting and  
13 mining" means only the use of the following methods: Pans,  
14 nonmotorized sluice boxes, concentrators, and minirocker boxes for the  
15 discovery and recovery of minerals.

Passed the House April 26, 1997.

Passed the Senate April 26, 1997.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 1997.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1997.