

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6313

Chapter 20, Laws of 2002

57th Legislature
2002 Regular Session

DERELICT FISHING GEAR

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/13/02

Passed by the Senate February 14, 2002
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN
President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 5, 2002
YEAS 96 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP
**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6313** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK
Secretary

Approved March 12, 2002

FILED

March 12, 2002 - 2:13 p.m.

GARY LOCKE
Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6313

Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2002 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Shorelines
(originally sponsored by Senator Oke)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/2002.

1 AN ACT Relating to derelict fishing gear; adding new sections to
2 chapter 77.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 77.55 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that fishing gear that
6 is lost or abandoned may continue to catch marine organisms long after
7 the gear is lost. The purpose of this act is to develop safe,
8 effective methods to remove derelict fishing gear, eliminate regulatory
9 barriers to gear removal, and discourage future losses of fishing gear.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 (1) As used in this section and section 3 of this act, "derelict
13 fishing gear" includes lost or abandoned fishing nets, fishing lines,
14 crab pots, shrimp pots, and other commercial and recreational fishing
15 equipment. The term does not include lost or abandoned vessels.

16 (2) The department, in partnership with the Northwest straits
17 commission, the department of natural resources, and other interested
18 parties, must publish guidelines for the safe removal and disposal of

1 derelict fishing gear. The guidelines must be completed by August 31,
2 2002, and made available to any person interested in derelict fishing
3 gear removal.

4 (3) Derelict fishing gear removal conducted in accordance with the
5 guidelines prepared in subsection (2) of this section is not subject to
6 permitting under RCW 77.55.100.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) The department, in consultation with the Northwest straits
10 commission, the department of natural resources, and other interested
11 parties, must create and maintain a data base of known derelict fishing
12 gear, including the type of gear and its location.

13 (2) A person who loses or abandons commercial fishing gear within
14 the waters of the state is encouraged to report the location of the
15 loss and the type of gear lost to the department within forty-eight
16 hours of the loss.

17 (3) The department, in consultation with fishing industry groups
18 and tribal comanagers, must evaluate methods to reduce future losses of
19 fishing gear and report the results of this evaluation to the
20 appropriate legislative committees by January 1, 2003.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 77.55 RCW
22 to read as follows:

23 The removal of derelict fishing gear does not require written
24 approval under this chapter if the gear is removed according to the
25 guidelines described in section 2 of this act.

Passed the Senate February 14, 2002.

Passed the House March 5, 2002.

Approved by the Governor March 12, 2002.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 12, 2002.