

1005

Sponsor(s): Representatives Morris and Lantz

Brief Description: Allowing the granting of easements on state-owned aquatic lands for local public utility lines.

**HB 1005 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Finds that local utility lines must cross state-owned aquatic lands in order to reach all state residents and that, for the benefit of such residents, the state should permit such crossings, consistent with all applicable state environmental laws, in a nondiscriminatory, economic, and timely manner.

Requires that the use of state-owned aquatic lands for local public utility lines owned by a nongovernmental entity shall be granted by easement if the use is consistent with the purpose of RCW 79.90.450 through 79.90.460 and does not obstruct navigation or other public uses.

Declares that the total charge for the term of the easement shall be the larger of (1) an amount equal to the diminution in the property value caused by locating the utility lines on the aquatic land, based on the appraised value of the land in its current use at the time of application for the easement, or (2) five thousand dollars.

Creates the utilities and aquatic lands task force.

Directs the utilities and aquatic lands task force to study charges made for the lease or easement of aquatic lands for local public utility lines, and, by July 1, 2002, recommend to the legislature any changes from current practice found appropriate.