

5869

Sponsor(s): Senators Fraser, Morton, Regala, McDonald, Jacobsen, Swecker and Horn; by request of Governor Locke

Brief Description: Modifying provisions concerning water management.

SB 5869 - DIGEST

Declares that the legislature is committed to meeting the needs of a growing population and a healthy economy statewide; to meeting the needs of fish and healthy watersheds statewide; and to advancing these two principles together, in increments over time.

Finds that improved management of the state's water resources, providing timely decisions on water transfers, and enhancing the flexibility of our water management system to meet both environmental and economic goals, are important steps to providing a better future for our state.

Declares that the need for these improvements is particularly urgent as we are faced with the imminent threat of drought conditions. The failure to act now will only increase the potential negative effects on both the economy and the environment, including fisheries resources.