

1 **SSB 5144** - H AMD TO AGNR COMM AMD (H2708.1)**382 ADOPTED 4/16/03**
2 By Representative Rockefeller

3 On page 15, after line 13 of the amendment, insert the
4 following:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The legislature finds that since 1995,
6 large numbers of oak and tanoak trees have been dying in the
7 coastal counties of California. The legislature also finds that
8 the disease causing the tree loss, which is commonly referred to as
9 Sudden Oak Death Syndrome, has, as of the effective date of this
10 act, been confirmed in twelve California counties, and one Oregon
11 county. The legislature also finds that in addition to affecting
12 several species of oak, this disease has been confirmed to affect
13 several plant species common in Washington's forests, including
14 Douglas Fir, big leaf maple, huckleberry, rhododendron, madrone,
15 and manzanita. The legislature recognizes that the state of
16 California and the United States department of agriculture have
17 adopted restrictions on the movement of articles that may host the
18 disease, and the state of Oregon and the Canadian government have
19 adopted restrictions on the importation of potential host articles.
20 The legislature finds that an introduction of Sudden Oak Death
21 Syndrome into Washington could cause potential damage to the
22 state's forest health, leading to both economic and ecological
23 losses.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 17.24
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 The department and the department of natural resources shall
27 coordinate their Sudden Oak Death Syndrome response efforts with
28 other plant pest agencies and private organizations to exchange
29 information, monitor the confirmed incidences of the disease, and
30 take action as appropriate under existing plant pest control
31 authorities to prevent the introduction of the disease into

1 Washington and to control or eradicate the disease if it is
2 determined to be present in the state."

3 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Requires the Department of Agriculture and the
Department of Natural Resources to coordinate their responses
to Sudden Oak Death Syndrome.