

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6636

58th Legislature
2004 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 10, 2004
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 5, 2004
YEAS 94 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr.,
Secretary of the Senate of the
State of Washington, do hereby
certify that the attached is
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6636 as
passed by the Senate and the House
of Representatives on the dates
hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6636

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture (originally sponsored by Senators Rasmussen, Swecker, Jacobsen, Brandland, Doumit, Fairley, Kohl-Welles, Eide, Fraser, Regala, Shin, Prentice, Honeyford, Kline, Thibaudeau, Poulsen, Spanel, Franklin, Keiser, Winsley, Oke and Esser)

READ FIRST TIME 02/09/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to the disposal of animals; amending RCW 16.68.020;
2 creating new sections; providing an expiration date; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) An interagency work group shall be
6 formed by the departments of health, agriculture, and ecology to
7 develop a comprehensive state policy on proper methods for disposing of
8 animal carcasses in a manner that protects other animals and humans.

9 (2) In developing the state policy, the interagency work group
10 shall include the involvement of:

- 11 (a) Local health departments;
12 (b) Other state and federal agencies that have an interest or
13 expertise in the issues to be reviewed by the work group;
14 (c) University scientists;
15 (d) Representatives of meat processors;
16 (e) Representatives of animal feeding operations; and
17 (f) Other affected constituency groups.

18 (3) In developing the comprehensive state policy, the interagency
19 work group shall:

1 (a) Include a review of existing rules for their adequacy in
2 protecting public health and animal health from possible transmission
3 of diseases including, but not limited to, various forms of
4 transmissible spongiform encephalopathies;

5 (b) Examine the possible vectors of disease transmission including
6 air, land, water, birds, and scavengers;

7 (c) Evaluate any applicable existing or proposed federal
8 regulations and applicable draft technical guides, including, but not
9 limited to, RCW 16.68.020, WAC 246-203-120(3), and guidance from the
10 United States department of agriculture; and

11 (d) Develop an educational component that will provide information
12 and technical guidance to governmental entities, animal owners, and the
13 public on how to comply with the state policy and associated rules.

14 (4) The comprehensive state policy may include references to
15 federal regulations and guidance documents, and the work group shall
16 strive for a high degree of consistency between jurisdictions.

17 (5) The interagency work group shall provide a written report to
18 the appropriate standing committees of the legislature by December 17,
19 2004, and December 16, 2005, that summarizes the actions of the work
20 group and its findings and recommendations, including any
21 recommendations for legislation to amend statutes that are necessary to
22 implement the state policy developed under this section or to adjust
23 any inconsistent state policies.

24 **Sec. 2.** RCW 16.68.020 and 1949 c 100 s 2 are each amended to read
25 as follows:

26 (~~Every~~) (1) Except as provided by the department of agriculture
27 in emergency rules adopted pursuant to section 3 of this act, a person
28 owning or having in charge (~~any~~) an animal that has died or been
29 killed on account of disease shall immediately bury the carcass
30 (~~thereof~~) of the animal to such a depth that no part of the carcass
31 shall be nearer than three feet from the surface of the ground.

32 (2) Any animal found dead shall be presumed to have died from and
33 on account of disease.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Until December 30, 2005, the department of
35 agriculture may issue emergency rules for the disposal of diseased
36 animal carcasses that are supplemental to, or contrary to, RCW

1 16.68.020, if the director of the department of agriculture deems that
2 such rules are appropriate for the disposal of a large number of
3 animals.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
5 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
6 June 30, 2004, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
7 void.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act expires December 30, 2005.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
12 immediately.

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