5787-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water (originally sponsored by Senators Morton, Prentice, Hale, Jacobsen, Kohl-Welles, Hewitt, Doumit and Horn)

Brief Description: Protecting water quality.

SB 5787-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that, in order to ensure that construction projects involving the use of fill material do not pose a threat to water quality, the department may require that the suitability of potential fill material be evaluated using a leaching test included in the soil clean-up rules adopted by the department under chapter 70.105D RCW in any water quality certification issued under section 401 of the federal clean water act and in any administrative order issued under this chapter, where such certification administrative order authorizes the placement of fill material, some or all of which will be placed in waters of the state.

Directs the department to identify the leaching tests utilized for evaluating the potential impacts to water quality in situations where fill material is imported. The tests may include those identified in the soil clean-up rules adopted by the department under chapter 70.105D RCW. Within existing resources, the department shall assess whether this list of leaching tests provides appropriate methods for analyzing water quality impacts for all types of projects and in all circumstances where fill material is imported. The department shall also identify any gaps in leaching test methodology. The department shall report both the leaching test list and the list of test methodology gaps to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2003.