

5859

Sponsor(s): Senator Benton

Brief Description: Criminalizing interference with certain mining rights and activities. Revised for 1st Substitute: Creating the crime of mineral trespass.

SB 5859 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares that a person commits the crime of mineral trespass if the person intentionally and without the permission of the claim holder: (1) Enters a mining claim posted as required in chapter 78.08 RCW and disturbs, removes, or attempts to remove any mineral from the claim site;

(2) Tampers with or disturbs a flume, rocker box, bedrock sluice, sluice box, dredge, quartz mill, or other mining equipment at a posted mining claim; or

(3) Defaces a location stake, side post, corner post, landmark, monument, or posted written notice within a posted mining claim.

Declares that mineral trespass is a gross misdemeanor.

Declares that a person commits the crime of interfering with a lawful small scale mining operation that is in full compliance with state and federal laws if the person intentionally: (1) Interferes with a lawful small scale mining operation; or

(2) Stops, or causes to be stopped, a lawful small scale mining operation.

Provides that interfering with a lawful small scale mining operation is a gross misdemeanor.