

6335

Sponsor(s): Senators Mulliken and Kline

Brief Description: Clarifying critical areas.

SB 6335 - DIGEST

Declares an intent to assist local governments, state agencies, and citizens in planning under the growth management act.

Does not intend to change the best available science requirement or the state procedural criteria adopted to implement that requirement.

Provides that local governments may employ innovative approaches to protect critical areas when such approaches include best available science, as defined this act.

Authorizes local governments to employ experimental approaches to protect critical areas. However, if a local government bases a management decision regarding a critical area on information that does not satisfy all of the characteristics of science, or on conflicting scientific information, the local government must minimize risk and employ monitoring and adaptive management to learn whether the approach used is adequately protecting the functions and values of that critical area, and adjust the approach as necessary to ensure protection of critical area functions and values.