
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 3102

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives B. Sullivan, Buck, Appleton, Eickmeyer, Pearson, Campbell and Hasegawa)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to geoduck harvesting; amending RCW 77.65.410;
2 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.65.410 and 1993 c 340 s 24 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Every diver engaged in the commercial harvest of geoduck clams
7 shall obtain a nontransferable geoduck diver license.

8 (2) After July 1, 2006, the director may not issue new geoduck
9 diver licenses. A person may renew an existing license only if the
10 person held a geoduck diver license in 2004 and held a geoduck diver
11 license for a minimum of five of the ten years from 1994 through 2003.

12 (3) The director must revoke a geoduck diver license issued after
13 January 1, 2006, that does not meet the criteria of subsections (1) and
14 (2) of this section.

15 (4) Geoduck diver licenses are not transferable. The license
16 holder must perform the actual harvesting.

17 (5) The director must revoke geoduck diver licenses that are not
18 renewed by December 31st of each year.

1 (6) A license may be reissued by the director if another license is
2 surrendered for any reason at any time.

3 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) The department of fish and wildlife and
4 the department of natural resources shall jointly evaluate the effects
5 of the limited license provisions in RCW 77.65.410. The evaluation
6 shall include, but not be limited to:

7 (a) The adequacy of the number of licensed geoduck divers available
8 to conduct commercial geoduck harvests;

9 (b) The economic impact on the geoduck fishery, including the
10 impact on state revenues;

11 (c) The effect on harvest practices, including compliance with
12 conditions stipulated in harvest contracts;

13 (d) The economic impacts to licensed divers, including the average
14 costs for securing divers for commercial harvest; and

15 (e) The percentage of geoduck divers with health insurance and
16 other employment-related benefits before and after the limited entry
17 license.

18 (2) The department of fish and wildlife and the department of
19 natural resources shall report their findings and recommendations to
20 the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 15, 2007.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. Section 1 of this act expires June 30, 2008.

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