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SENATE BILL 6708

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senator Jacobsen

Read first time 01/19/2006. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to geoduck harvesting; amending RCW 77.65.410; and  
2 declaring an emergency.

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) Licensed geoduck harvesters bear the responsibility for  
7 providing the labor and equipment to plant geoduck seed provided by a  
8 state hatchery onto state commercial beds.

9 (2) Every diver engaged in the commercial harvest of geoduck clams  
10 shall obtain a nontransferable geoduck diver license.

11 (3) After July 1, 2006, the director may not issue new geoduck  
12 diver licenses. A person may renew an existing license only if the  
13 person held a geoduck diver license in 2004, and:

14 (a) Held a geoduck diver license for a minimum of five of the ten  
15 years from 1994 through 2003; or

16 (b) Acquired the license by transfer from another person who held  
17 it during the previous year, and the person did not subsequently  
18 transfer the license to a third party.

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

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

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

8       NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
10 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
11 immediately.

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