

HB 1883-S.E - DIGEST

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 1/27/06)

Finds that the factors contributing to Hood Canal's low dissolved oxygen problems are complex and that investigation is needed to understand both the problem and its potential solutions.

Finds that a historical perspective is important in understanding Hood Canal's problems.

Recognizes the tribal elders and other long-term residents of the Hood Canal area are a great source of knowledge regarding the history of Hood Canal.

Finds these tribal elders and others may provide critical insight into the history, impacts, and potential causes of the low dissolved oxygen concentrations occurring in Hood Canal.

Declares an intent to initiate a process for university students to interview tribal elders and others who have knowledge of the history of conditions along Hood Canal to collect information regarding the history and impacts of Hood Canal's low dissolved oxygen concentrations.

Declares an intent that these interviews and the information learned be preserved as part of the state's oral history program.

Directs The Evergreen State College to administer and conduct a program to record and document oral histories of tribal elders of the tribes in the area surrounding Hood Canal and other long-term residents of the Hood Canal area who have similar knowledge of the history of the conditions along Hood Canal. The purpose of these interviews is to collect information and perspectives regarding the history of the conditions along Hood Canal, including but not limited to reports of fish kills, changes in marine species behavior, fishing and harvesting histories, and other conditions related to the environmental health of Hood Canal.

Expires July 1, 2008.