

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SB 6284

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
Agriculture & Natural Resources

**Title:** An act relating to the dairy products commission.

**Brief Description:** Modifying provisions relating to the dairy products commission.

**Sponsors:** Senators Schoesler and Rasmussen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Agriculture & Natural Resources: 2/20/08, 2/21/08 [DP].

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Makes changes regarding the composition of the Washington Dairy Products Commission (Commission).
- Eliminates the producer-dealer position on the Commission, reducing the number of commissioners from 10 to nine.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 13 members: Representatives Blake, Chair; Van De Wege, Vice Chair; Kretz, Ranking Minority Member; Warnick, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Eickmeyer, Grant, Kristiansen, Lantz, Loomis, McCoy, Nelson, Newhouse and Orcutt.

**Staff:** Colleen Kerr (786-7168).

**Background:**

The Washington Dairy Products Commission (Commission) was created by the Washington State Legislature in 1939 under statute. The Commission is directed by a board of 10 commissioners comprised of seven dairy producers, one producer-dealer, one processor representative, and one representative of the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Director (Director) of the State Department of Agriculture appoints commissioners and oversees the Commission's budgetary expenditures.

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**Summary of Bill:**

The Commission shall be composed of nine members, and removes the requirement that one commissioner is a producer-dealer. When only one candidate is nominated for a position, the Director has the discretion to appoint or reject the candidate. Vacancies will be filled by appointment by the Director from a list of candidates proposed by the Commission. When only one candidate is proposed, the Director may appoint or reject the candidate and request an additional candidate from the Commission.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) The Senate bill is the same as the House bill. It goes to streamlining the process for nominating, selecting, and rejecting candidates to serve on the Commission and eliminates a position to reflect changes in the industry.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Chris Cheney, Washington Dairy Federation.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.