

SSB 5836 - S AMD 221

By Senator Chase

NOT CONSIDERED

1 On page 1, after line 3, insert the following:

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4 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that local government
5 should be provided greater certainty regarding the legal availability
6 of water supplies when reviewing proposed subdivisions and when
7 issuing building permits. The legislature further finds that the
8 physical availability of such water supplies is also critically
9 important and that increased use of withdrawals from permit-exempt
10 wells can lead to increased uncertainty regarding the condition of
11 ground water sources and the potential upon other users. Therefore it
12 is the intent of this act to provide greater certainty for local
13 governments in making water resource decisions by clarifying the
14 subdivision and building permit provisions of law regarding the use of
15 permit-exempt wells, and providing a policy of sustainable use of
16 ground water resources.

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19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 90.44 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 The groundwaters of the state shall be managed sustainably so that
22 both the quantity and quality is maintained and protected for both
23 present and future generations. In all aspects of water resource
24 management, withdrawals that would deplete a groundwater source to an
25 extent that it would jeopardize the long-term yield and uses from that
26 source shall be discouraged."

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1 Renumber sections consecutively and correct any internal references
2 accordingly.

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EFFECT: Provides legislative findings and intent regarding
certainty in local government water resource decisions and provides
for a policy of sustainable management of ground water resources for
present and future generations.

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