

**SB 6087 - S AMD 499**

By Senator Hatfield

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington's  
4 thirty-nine thousand five hundred farms and ranches generate one  
5 hundred sixty thousand jobs, forty-nine billion dollars in revenue, and  
6 thirteen percent of the state's economy, powering a diverse food and  
7 agricultural economy that is critical to maintaining a strong state  
8 economy. The legislature further finds that clean water is essential  
9 to protecting human health and the public welfare. Furthermore, clean  
10 water is vital to a productive and growing economy and directly affects  
11 many economic sectors including agriculture, tourism, commercial  
12 fishing, commercial shellfish production, and manufacturing. The  
13 legislature further finds that agricultural and livestock production  
14 can coexist with clean water.

15 The legislature finds that the department of ecology is responsible  
16 for protecting water quality in the state and addressing pollution from  
17 agricultural lands. The legislature finds that to achieve the joint  
18 goals of protecting water quality and maintaining a strong agricultural  
19 economy, the department of ecology would benefit from increased  
20 collaboration directly with agricultural and livestock producers and  
21 other stakeholders.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 90.48 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 (1) The department shall initiate an agricultural-water quality  
25 advisory committee to:

26 (a) Improve communication and collaboration among the department,  
27 agricultural and livestock producers, and other affected stakeholders  
28 and entities;

1 (b) Provide input and recommendations on technical policy issues  
2 related to agriculture, livestock management, and water quality; and  
3 (c) Provide an open forum for agricultural and livestock producers  
4 to work together with department staff.  
5 (2) At a minimum, the agricultural-water quality advisory committee  
6 must include representatives from agricultural and livestock producers,  
7 private landowners, tribes, and environmental organizations.  
8 (3) The department shall submit a final report by July 1, 2015, to  
9 the committees with jurisdiction over agricultural issues in the house  
10 of representatives and the senate on the process and recommendations of  
11 the agricultural-water quality advisory committee.  
12 (4) This section expires July 1, 2017."

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13 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "agriculture;" strike the  
14 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter  
15 90.48 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: The original bill is replaced by the creation of a temporary agricultural-water quality advisory committee that must include representatives from agricultural and livestock producers, private landowners, tribes, and environmental organizations.

The committee must facilitate an open forum for agricultural and livestock producers to work together with DOE staff to achieve communication and collaboration on technical policy issues among the participants.

The department must submit a final report to the Legislature by July 1, 2015.

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