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SENATE BILL 5097

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Braun and Takko; by request of Department of Ecology

Read first time 01/12/17. Referred to Committee on Energy,  
Environment & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to clarifying procedures for appointment to the  
2 Chehalis board created by chapter 194, Laws of 2016; amending RCW  
3 43.21A.731; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.21A.731 and 2016 c 194 s 2 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The Chehalis board is created consisting of seven voting  
8 members.

9 (2)(a) Four members of the board must be voting members who are  
10 appointed ~~((by))~~ through the governor ~~((, subject to confirmation by~~  
11 ~~the senate. One member must represent the Chehalis Indian tribe and~~  
12 ~~one member must represent the Quinault Indian nation))~~. The governor  
13 shall invite the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation and  
14 the Quinault Indian Nation to each designate a voting member of the  
15 board. In addition, the governor shall appoint two members of the  
16 board, subject to confirmation by the senate. Three board members  
17 must be selected by the Chehalis basin flood authority. No member may  
18 have a financial or regulatory interest in the work of the board. The  
19 governor shall appoint one of the flood authority appointees as the  
20 chair. The voting members of the board must be appointed for terms of  
21 four years, except that ~~((two members))~~ one member appointed by the

1 governor and one member appointed by the flood authority initially  
2 must be appointed for terms of two years, and (~~three members~~) one  
3 member appointed by the governor and two members appointed by the  
4 flood authority must initially be appointed for terms of three years.  
5 In making the appointments, (~~the governor~~) each appointing  
6 authority shall seek a board membership that collectively provides  
7 the expertise necessary to provide strong oversight for  
8 implementation of the Chehalis basin strategy, that provides  
9 extensive knowledge of local government processes and functions, and  
10 that has an understanding of issues relevant to reducing flood  
11 damages and restoring aquatic species.

12 (b) In addition to the seven voting members of the board, the  
13 following five state officials must serve as ex officio nonvoting  
14 members of the board: The director of the department of fish and  
15 wildlife, the executive director of the Washington state conservation  
16 commission, the secretary of the department of transportation, the  
17 director of the department of ecology, and the commissioner of public  
18 lands. The state officials serving in an ex officio capacity may  
19 designate a representative of their respective agencies to serve on  
20 the board in their behalf. These designations must be made in writing  
21 and in such a manner as is specified by the board.

22 (3) Staff support to the board must be provided by the  
23 department. For administrative purposes, the board is located within  
24 the department.

25 (4) Members of the board who do not represent state agencies must  
26 be compensated as provided by RCW 43.03.250. Members of the board  
27 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided by RCW 43.03.050  
28 and 43.03.060.

29 (5) The board is responsible for oversight of a long-term  
30 strategy resulting from the department's programmatic environmental  
31 impact statement for the Chehalis river basin to reduce flood damages  
32 and restore aquatic species habitat.

33 (6) The board is responsible for overseeing the implementation of  
34 the strategy and developing biennial and supplemental budget  
35 recommendations to the governor.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
37 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of

1 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
2 effect immediately.

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