
**Rural Development, Agriculture, &
Natural Resources Committee**

HB 2557

Brief Description: Simplifying the hunting seasons and regulations pamphlet published by the department of fish and wildlife.

Sponsors: Representatives Dye, Blake, Kretz, Eslick, Gildon and Volz.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to publish hunting seasons and regulations in the form of a two-sided highway map.

Hearing Date: 1/21/20

Staff: Rebecca Lewis (786-7339).

Background:

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) manages hunting in the state. Specifically, the WDFW has the authority to determine the time and place where hunting may lawfully occur and the manner of hunting that is allowed. Prior to the merger of the Departments of Fisheries and Wildlife in 1993, the Department of Game (and later the Department of Wildlife) was responsible for adopting hunting regulations, among several other duties.

Summary of Bill:

Each hunting season, the Department of Fish and Wildlife must publish the hunting seasons and regulations in the form of a one-page document with a Washington state highway map on one side, and the hunting seasons and regulations, by species, on the other side. In addition to cities, towns, and county boundaries, the highway map must include a variety of other geographic information including boundaries for federal land, Indian reservations, and game management unit boundaries. The document may also include any other information that would help hunters

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in the field understand and abide by hunting regulations. Legislative intent is expressed to model the document after a similar type document published by the Department of Game in 1969.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 15, 2020.

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