
HOUSE BILL 1707

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Dent and Dye

Read first time 01/29/25. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a review process before the state
2 noxious weed control board may list certain agricultural crops as
3 noxious weeds; amending RCW 17.10.080; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that effective
6 communication between affected parties and regulators is always
7 important, but especially so at the present time, as agricultural
8 producers and the agricultural economy are under strain. Therefore,
9 the legislature intends to restrict the listing of any agricultural
10 crops as noxious weeds before the state noxious weed control board
11 has the opportunity to hold public hearings on recommendations
12 provided by work groups convened by the department of agriculture and
13 composed of agricultural producers.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 17.10.080 and 2011 c 126 s 1 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) The state noxious weed control board shall each year or more
17 often, following a hearing, adopt a state noxious weed list.

18 (2) The state noxious weed control board shall adopt guidelines
19 by rule for placing plants on the state noxious weed list. These
20 guidelines must include criteria for reconsideration of proposed new

1 species that were not adopted by the state noxious weed control
2 board, including the need for the board to be presented with
3 additional data from scientific sources regarding any invasive and
4 noxious qualities of the species and from existing positive economic
5 benefits before taking any action. These guidelines must prohibit the
6 listing of agricultural crops as noxious weeds before the board
7 receives, and conducts a public hearing on, recommendations provided
8 by a work group convened by the department of agriculture that has
9 members who include, at a minimum, affected agricultural producers
10 and one member of the board.

11 (3) Any person may request during a comment period established by
12 the state noxious weed control board the inclusion, deletion, or
13 designation change of any plant to the state noxious weed list.

14 (4) The state noxious weed control board shall send a copy of the
15 list to each activated county noxious weed control board, to each
16 weed district, and to the county legislative authority of each county
17 with an inactive noxious weed control board.

18 (5) The record of rule making must include the written findings
19 of the board for the inclusion of each plant on the list. The
20 findings shall be made available upon request to any interested
21 person.

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