

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 6236

C 62 L 96

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Establishing shoreline management project completion timelines.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Senator Swecker).

Senate Committee on Ecology & Parks

House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology

Background: The Shoreline Management Act (SMA) establishes a cooperative program of shoreline management between local governments and the state. Under the SMA, counties and cities are required to develop comprehensive shoreline use plans and development regulations. A shoreline substantial development permit is required for any construction with a fair market cost of over \$2,500, with some exemptions. The Department of Ecology has adopted rules governing the preparation and adoption of shoreline master programs, and providing standards for permitting shoreline developments.

The Department of Ecology rules include time requirements for shoreline permits. Substantial progress toward completion of a permitted activity must be undertaken within two years after the approval of the permit by the local government. The local government may authorize a single extension to this time limit of up to one year. The rules also require that the substantial development permit must expire within five years after approval of the permit. The local government may authorize a single time extension of up to one year beyond the five-year period.

Summary: Time requirements for substantial development permits are established. These time requirements may be changed by local governments for specific substantial development permits based on the circumstances of the proposed project.

Construction activities must be commenced within two years and completed within five years of the effective date of the substantial development permit. One year extensions to each time limit may be granted if the request is made prior to the expiration date, and notice of the extension is given to parties of record.

The effective date of the substantial development permit is the date of the last permit action on the development, including all administrative and legal actions on any government approvals.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate 46 0

House 94 0

Effective: June 6, 1996