

ANALYSIS OF SSB 5103

*House Agriculture & Ecology Committee
30, 1999*

March

Changing provisions relating to the state's coastal zone program.

BACKGROUND:

Under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, federal agencies must determine whether their actions or the actions of their permittees or licensees are consistent with approved state coastal zone management programs. Washington has had a program since 1976. The state develops a Coastal Program document that advises federal agencies of all of the state's laws and regulations pertaining to shorelines. The program currently consists of the Shoreline Management Act and the state master program, which includes local shoreline master programs, as well as the state and federal clean water acts and clean air acts, the State Environmental Policy Act, the Energy Facilities Siting Act, and the Transport of Petroleum Products Act. Other state and local government policies that could influence federal actions affecting the state's coastal zone are not currently included in the program.

SUMMARY:

The Department of Ecology is designated the principal agency for administering the provisions of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act and is authorized to receive and administer federal grants and enter into agreements with other government entities in order to fully implement the state's coastal zone management program. By July 1, 2001, the department must review state and local laws that relate to the coastal zone to determine whether inclusion of these programs into the state's coastal zone management program would strengthen the state's ability to require federal consistency. In conducting its review, the department must consult with the relevant agencies and governments. It must then apply to have the appropriate programs included in the state's coastal zone management program. The department must also compile the state program into a single document, and provide for public review and comment on applications for state concurrence in federal consistency determinations.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 14, 1999.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.