

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6329

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Parks, Fish & Wildlife, February 3, 2004

**Title:** An act relating to extending the date for ballast water discharge implementation.

**Brief Description:** Extending the date for implementation of ballast water discharge requirements.

**Sponsors:** Senator Oke.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Parks, Fish & Wildlife: 1/27/04, 2/3/04 [DPS].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON PARKS, FISH & WILDLIFE

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6329 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Oke, Chair; Sheahan, Vice Chair; Doumit, Jacobsen, Morton and Swecker.

**Staff:** Vic Moon (786-7469)

**Background:** The Department of Fish and Wildlife is authorized to implement a ballast water management program. The program enters ballast water reporting data, evaluates the vessel exchanges and compliance with the state's requirements and assesses ballast treatment systems. Discharge into waters of the state of Washington are authorized if a vessel has conducted an open sea exchange of ballast water.

A ballast water task force is currently working on recommendations to the Legislature regarding ballast water treatment programs for the state of Washington.

**Summary of Substitute Bill:** The date for required treatment of ballast water is changed from July 1, 2004, to July 1, 2007. The ballast water work group is expanded to include the Department of Fish and Wildlife as a member. Staff is provided by the Puget Sound water quality action team. The report is due in 2006.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:** The substitute bill adds membership to the ballast water work group and changes the staff.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

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

**Testimony For:** The technology for full ballast water treatment or exchange systems is not ready for full implementation and the United States Coast Guard and other groups are working on a program which is broader than the state program.

**Testimony Against:** The shipping industry needs to demonstrate that they are trying to find solutions to the problem. More reporting and funding is needed.

**Testified:** PRO: Greg Hanon, Western States Petroleum Assn.; Rick Wickman, Columbia River Shippers; Mike Moore, Puget Sound Ship Operators; Kevin Reynolds, James Winton, United States Geological Service; CONCERNS: Jim Jeserning, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers; Scott Smith, Department of Fish and Wildlife; CON: Rick Affett Trout Unlimited; Gerald Joyce, Audubon Society; Bill Robinson, The Nature Conservancy.