

2SSB 5188 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

ADOPTED 04/10/2007

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that licensed
4 wildlife rehabilitators often work closely with local law enforcement,
5 animal control officers, wildlife enforcement officers, and wildlife
6 biologists at the state and federal levels to aid in the safe capture,
7 testing for disease, medical treatment, rehabilitation, and release of
8 wildlife. The state recognizes the critical role licensed wildlife
9 rehabilitators play in capturing and caring for the sick, injured, and
10 orphaned wildlife of Washington state.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16.606 and 1991 sp.s. c 7 s 13 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 In addition to the fees imposed in RCW 46.16.585 for application
14 and renewal of personalized license plates an additional fee of (~~ten~~)
15 twelve dollars shall be charged. (~~The revenue~~) Ten dollars from the
16 additional fee shall be deposited in the state wildlife (~~fund~~)
17 account and used for the management of resources associated with the
18 nonconsumptive use of wildlife. Two dollars from the additional fee
19 shall be deposited into the wildlife rehabilitation account created
20 under section 3 of this act.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
22 to read as follows:

23 The wildlife rehabilitation account is created in the state
24 treasury. All receipts from moneys directed to the account from RCW
25 46.16.606 must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account
26 may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account
27 may be used only for the support of the wildlife rehabilitation program
28 created under section 4 of this act.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The director shall establish a wildlife rehabilitation program
4 to help support the critical role licensed wildlife rehabilitators play
5 in protecting the public by capturing, testing for disease, and caring
6 for sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife in Washington state. The
7 director shall contract for wildlife rehabilitation services with up to
8 four people in each of the department's six administrative regions.
9 Applicants may submit only one request every two years and must reside
10 in the administrative region for which they have applied. The
11 contracts must be for a term of two years.

12 (2) In order to receive funding, the wildlife rehabilitator must:
13 (a) Be properly licensed in wildlife rehabilitation under state and
14 federal law; and (b) furnish information concerning his or her
15 identity, including fingerprints for submission to the Washington state
16 patrol to include a national criminal background check. The applicant
17 must pay for the cost of the criminal background check. If the
18 background check reveals that the applicant has been convicted of a
19 felony or gross misdemeanor, the applicant is ineligible to receive
20 funding.

21 (3) The department must require that contractors submit detailed
22 reports accounting for all expenditures of state funds. The reports
23 must be submitted to the department on a quarterly basis. The
24 department may require the contractor to submit to an inspection of the
25 rehabilitation facility to ensure compliance with department rules
26 governing wildlife rehabilitation. Expenditures that are permitted
27 under this program as they specifically relate to wildlife
28 rehabilitation include: (a) Reimbursement for diagnostic and lab
29 support services; (b) purchase and maintenance of proper restraints and
30 equipment used in the capture, transportation, temporary housing, and
31 release of wildlife; (c) reimbursement of contracted veterinary
32 services; (d) reimbursement of the cost of food, medication, and other
33 consumables; and (e) reimbursement of the cost of continuing education.
34 The department shall give priority to applications submitted that
35 provide for the rehabilitation of endangered or threatened species.
36 Funds may not be used to rehabilitate either nonnative species or
37 nuisance animals, or both, including, but not limited to the following:
38 Eastern gray squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*); opossum (*Didelphis*

1 virginiana); raccoons (*Procyon lotor*); striped skunk (*Mephitis*
2 *mephitis*); spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius*); Eastern cottontail
3 rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*); domestic rabbit (*Oryctolagus*
4 *cuniculus*); European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*); and house sparrow
5 (*Passer domesticus*).

6 (4) The department may adopt any rules as are necessary to carry
7 out this section.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 The department must develop a process for renewing wildlife
11 rehabilitation licenses. All wildlife rehabilitation licenses issued
12 by the department prior to January 1, 2006, must be renewed by January
13 1, 2010. The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this
14 section.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Section 2 of this act is effective for
16 registrations due or to become due on or after January 1, 2008."

17 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Removes language that asserts the paramount duty of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the relationship of wildlife to the state's citizens, the value of wildlife as a resource, and the rise in injury and human interactions with wildlife that occurs with development. Creates a legislative finding related to the work of licensed wildlife rehabilitators.

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