
SENATE BILL 5059

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Metcalf, Rasmussen, Anderson, Oke, Roach and Conner.

Read first time January 17, 1991. Referred to Committee on Environment & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to the enhancement of pink salmon; adding new
2 sections to chapter 75.08 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the hatchery
6 culture of pink salmon has been remarkably successful in Alaskan
7 waters. The Prince William Sound aquaculture corporation has the most
8 successful program in Alaska. In 1990 the corporation produced a total
9 of thirty million adult pink salmon from only three hatchery
10 facilities. This level of productivity is well in excess of three
11 times the annual Washington state salmon catch.

12 Washington state fisheries can benefit immensely from utilization
13 of the Alaskan fish culture methods for the purpose of cost-effective
14 production of pink salmon.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.08 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 Beginning with the 1991 brood of pink salmon, and all subsequent
4 broods, the department shall spawn and retain all available pink salmon
5 eggs for the purposes of this section.

6 The department shall acquire and install sufficient fine-mesh
7 floating net pens for early marine rearing of pink salmon. The net
8 pens shall be located in three areas:

9 (1) Hood Canal;

10 (2) South Puget Sound; and

11 (3) North Puget Sound.

12 The department shall locate the pens at existing net pen sites as
13 much as is practical. All available pink salmon fry are to be placed
14 in the pens for rearing by the Alaskan method. Sufficient pink salmon
15 are to be retained for release at mother hatcheries for purposes of
16 subsequent brood stock production.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 75.08 RCW
18 to read as follows:

19 The department shall contact the Alaska department of fish and game
20 for the purpose of acquiring eggs from even-year returning pink salmon
21 for introduction into Washington waters. Even-year pink salmon shall
22 be introduced into state waters.

23 The department shall utilize all applicable Alaskan rearing methods
24 for even-year pink salmon to assure maximum survival and opportunities
25 for developing a self-sustainable population.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
28 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take

1 effect immediately.