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SENATE BILL 5118

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Anderson, Oke, Snyder, Metcalf, L. Smith, Vognild, Rasmussen, Conner, Thorsness and Wojahn.

Read first time January 21, 1991. Referred to Committee on Environment & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to a fisheries hotline; and adding a new section to  
2 chapter 75.12 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 75.12 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 The department shall operate a state-wide twenty-four-hour toll-  
7 free hotline for reporting of food fish law violations. During normal  
8 working hours the hotline shall be answered by fisheries patrol  
9 personnel in the Olympia headquarters. Beyond normal working hours the  
10 department may contract with another governmental agency to answer the  
11 hotline and relay information to the appropriate fisheries department  
12 patrol officers. Upon receipt of a hotline report of an in-progress  
13 violation the department shall make a good faith effort to immediately  
14 respond.

1       The department shall contact each person who calls the toll-free  
2 food fish violation hotline with a report of a food fish law violation  
3 to report on the type of action that was taken and the results of the  
4 investigation.

5       The department shall publicize the state-wide twenty-four-hour  
6 toll-free hotline for reporting of food fish law violations, which  
7 shall be popularly known as the "food fish and shellfish poaching  
8 hotline." The department shall take steps to assure that the food fish  
9 and shellfish poaching hotline number is listed in phone books  
10 throughout the state, is included with the food fish regulation  
11 information pamphlet, and that all other law enforcement entities in  
12 the state are informed of the program.