

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5264**

52nd Legislature  
1991 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 22, 1991  
Yeas 45 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 18, 1991  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Gordon Golob, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5264** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**



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**SENATE BILL 5264**

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

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Passed Legislature - 1991 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Oke, Bailey, Rinehart, Stratton and Bauer.

Read first time January 25, 1991. Referred to Committee on Environment & Natural Resources.

1            AN ACT Relating to community and urban forestry; and adding a new  
2 chapter to Title 76 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature hereby finds and declares  
5 that:

6            (1) Trees and other woody vegetation are a necessary and important  
7 part of community and urban environments. Community and urban forests  
8 have many values and uses including conserving energy, reducing air and  
9 water pollution and soil erosion, contributing to property values,  
10 attracting business, reducing glare and noise, providing aesthetic and  
11 historical values, providing wood products, and affording comfort and  
12 protection for humans and wildlife.

13            (2) As urban and community areas in Washington state grow, the need  
14 to plan for and protect community and urban forests increases. Cities

1 and communities benefit from assistance in developing and maintaining  
2 community and urban forestry programs that also address future growth.

3 (3) Assistance and encouragement in establishment, retention, and  
4 enhancement of these forests and trees by local governments, citizens,  
5 organizations, and professionals are in the interest of the state based  
6 on the contributions these forests make in preserving and enhancing the  
7 quality of life of Washington's municipalities and counties while  
8 providing opportunities for economic development.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The purpose of this chapter is to:

10 (1) Encourage planting and maintenance and management of trees in  
11 the state's municipalities and counties and maximize the potential of  
12 tree and vegetative cover in improving the quality of the environment.

13 (2) Encourage the coordination of state and local agency activities  
14 and maximize citizen participation in the development and  
15 implementation of community and urban forestry-related programs.

16 (3) Foster healthy economic activity for the state's community and  
17 urban forestry-related businesses through cooperative and supportive  
18 contracts with the private business sector.

19 (4) Facilitate the creation of employment opportunities related to  
20 community and urban forestry activities including opportunities for  
21 inner city youth to learn teamwork, resource conservation,  
22 environmental appreciation, and job skills.

23 (5) Provide meaningful voluntary opportunities for the state's  
24 citizens and organizations interested in community and urban forestry  
25 activities.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Unless the context clearly requires  
27 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this  
28 chapter.

1 (1) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

2 (2) "Person" means an individual, partnership, private or public  
3 municipal corporation, Indian tribe, state entity, county or local  
4 governmental entity, or association of individuals of whatever nature.

5 (3) "Community and urban forest" is that land in and around human  
6 settlements ranging from small communities to metropolitan areas,  
7 occupied or potentially occupied by trees and associated vegetation.  
8 Community and urban forest land may be planted or unplanted, used or  
9 unused, and includes public and private lands, lands along  
10 transportation and utility corridors, and forested watershed lands  
11 within populated areas.

12 (4) "Community and urban forestry" means the planning,  
13 establishment, protection, care, and management of trees and associated  
14 plants individually, in small groups, or under forest conditions within  
15 municipalities and counties.

16 (5) "Municipality" means a city, town, port district, public school  
17 district, community college district, irrigation district, weed control  
18 district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department may establish and  
20 maintain a program in community and urban forestry to accomplish the  
21 purpose stated in section 2 of this act. The department may assist  
22 municipalities and counties in establishing and maintaining community  
23 and urban forestry programs and encourage persons to engage in  
24 appropriate and improved tree management and care.

25 (2) The department may advise, encourage, and assist  
26 municipalities, counties, and other public and private entities in the  
27 development and coordination of policies, programs, and activities for  
28 the promotion of community and urban forestry.

1 (3) The department may appoint a committee or council to advise the  
2 department in establishing and carrying out a program in community and  
3 urban forestry.

4 (4) The department may assist municipal and county tree maintenance  
5 programs by making surplus equipment available on loan where feasible  
6 for community and urban forestry programs and cooperative projects.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department may:

8 (1) Receive and disburse any and all moneys contributed, allotted,  
9 or paid by the United States under authority of any act of congress for  
10 the purposes of this chapter.

11 (2) Receive such gifts, grants, bequests, and endowments and  
12 donations of labor, material, seedlings, and equipment from public or  
13 private sources as may be made for the purpose of carrying out the  
14 provisions of this chapter, and may spend the gifts, grants, bequests,  
15 endowments, and donations as well as other moneys from public or  
16 private sources.

17 (3) Charge fees for attendance at workshops and conferences, and  
18 for various publications and other materials that the department may  
19 prepare.

20 (4) Enter into agreements and contracts with persons having  
21 community and urban forestry-related responsibilities.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The department shall assume the primary  
23 responsibility of carrying out this chapter and shall cooperate with  
24 other private and public, state and federal persons, any agency of  
25 another state, the United States, any agency of the United States, or  
26 any agency or province of Canada.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**        Sections 1 through 6 of this act shall  
2    constitute a new chapter in Title 76 RCW.