

6119-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
(originally sponsored by Senators Amondson, Sutherland, L. Smith,
Bauer, McCaslin, Metcalf, Saling and Barr)

Brief Description: Revising mining reclamation laws.

SB 6119-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides for state and local regulation of mining activities and designates the primary responsibility of each entity.

Creates the surface mining reclamation account.

Prohibits surface mining unless the operator has obtained a reclamation permit.

Requires applicants to provide a reclamation plan for approval prior to the issuance of a permit.

Authorizes the collection of fees for the issuance of a permit.

Requires applicants to deposit a performance security with the department.

Requires local governments to regulate surface mining operations in accordance with the standards and limitations of the act.

Creates a surface mining model ordinance advisory committee.

Provides for the establishment of minimum reclamation standards and for water control.

Authorizes the department to inspect the permit area to determine compliance with the rules and issue an order to rectify any deficiencies or suspend surface mining.

Establishes procedures for cancellation of the permit and issuance of an order to submit performance security for reclamation of the area by the department.

Authorizes the imposition of fines.

Establishes appeal procedures.

Repeals provisions of chapter 78.44 RCW.