

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**SB 5199**

**AS OF JANUARY 19, 1993**

**Brief Description:** Consolidating fisheries patrol officers and wildlife agents into the Washington state patrol.

**SPONSORS:** Senators L. Smith, Hargrove and Roach

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Staff:** Ross Antipa (786-7413)

**Hearing Dates:** January 25, 1993

**BACKGROUND:**

The Department of Wildlife has a division of enforcement that employs approximately 120 people. The Department of Fisheries has a similar enforcement division that is staffed by approximately 60 people. Many of the duties of the two departments are similar and increased protection of the resource and better service to the public may result from consolidation of the two divisions.

**SUMMARY:**

The enforcement divisions of the Department of Fisheries and Department of Wildlife are combined and transferred into the State Patrol. Employees have the option to remain in the retirement system in which they are members prior to the transfer, or to become members of the State Patrol retirement system upon being commissioned.

The State Patrol shall enforce all powers, duties and functions of the Department of Fisheries and the Department of Wildlife.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** requested January 19, 1993

**Effective Date:** December 31, 1993