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HOUSE BILL 1717

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Hansen, King, Chandler, Foreman, Roland and Mastin

Read first time 02/05/93. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to a merger of the departments of fisheries and  
2 wildlife; and creating new sections.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The legislature finds that there are  
5 inefficiencies in the current system of fish and wildlife management in  
6 the state. Salmon, shellfish, and marine fish management are under the  
7 jurisdiction of the department of fisheries, and steelhead trout and  
8 resident fish and wildlife management are under the jurisdiction of the  
9 department of wildlife. This separation results in duplication of  
10 effort, confusion for the public, conflicting missions regarding the  
11 state's fish and wildlife resources, and other inefficiencies.

12           NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    On or before January 1, 1997, the department  
13 of fisheries, the department of wildlife, and the fish and wildlife  
14 commission shall merge to form a department of fish and wildlife.

15           The departments shall consult with the commission, the legislative  
16 budget committee, and the office of financial management to determine  
17 the most cost-effective and efficient process for achieving the merger.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 3.**    On or before January 1, 1995, the  
2 departments shall present to the appropriate legislative committees  
3 recommended legislation encompassing all of the statutory changes  
4 necessary to complete the merger.

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