

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2741**

53rd Legislature  
1994 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 10, 1994  
Yeas 94 Nays 0

---

**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 9, 1994  
Yeas 46 Nays 0

---

**President of the Senate**

Approved

---

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Marilyn Showalter, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2741** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

---

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2741**

---

AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Passed Legislature - 1994 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1994 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville, Pruitt, King, Rust, Valle, R. Johnson, Roland, Rayburn, R. Meyers, J. Kohl, Kremen, L. Johnson and Karahalios)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1            AN ACT Relating to coordinated, watershed-based natural resource  
2 planning; 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:

5            (1) Long-term sustainable and economically productive watersheds  
6 are necessary for the well-being of the citizens of the state of  
7 Washington. The legislature also finds that there is a need to develop  
8 consensus regarding the beneficial economic and natural values which  
9 watersheds provide. The legislature further finds that watershed units  
10 are the appropriate geographic planning and implementation element for  
11 addressing the health and economic productivity of the state's natural  
12 resources;

13            (2) The ongoing efforts of public agencies and private parties in  
14 watershed planning and its implementation are having a far-reaching  
15 effect on lands and resources, and continued integrated and coordinated  
16 planning and its implementation is needed to achieve the most effective  
17 and efficient use of public funds;

18            (3) In times of decreasing revenues and increasing demands, it is  
19 critically important to ensure the efficient and effective use of

1 scarce financial resources by avoiding overlap and duplication of  
2 effort among watershed-based planning and implementation efforts;

3 (4) The existing efforts implementing watershed-based planning are  
4 often complicated by multiple land ownerships, different management  
5 missions and objectives, different ways of collecting information, and  
6 legal constraints; and

7 (5) Many different entities, including federal, state, and local  
8 governments, tribes, private landowners, and other groups are  
9 conducting planning, research, implementation, and monitoring programs  
10 relating to watersheds. To the greatest extent possible, coordinated  
11 planning and its implementation should be based on these efforts.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The purpose of this act and the intent of  
13 the legislature is:

14 (1) That sections 3 through 5 of this act do not grant any new  
15 rule-making authority nor direct any substantive changes to existing  
16 management policies established pursuant to law;

17 (2) To provide mechanisms to make comprehensive watershed planning  
18 and implementation policy recommendations for consideration by the  
19 legislature;

20 (3) To encourage coordination and integration of existing state  
21 agency and private party watershed planning and implementation; and

22 (4) To develop a set of measurable objectives against which the  
23 effectiveness of watershed programs may be assessed.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The watershed coordinating council is  
25 hereby established. The council shall be comprised of the commissioner  
26 of public lands or the commissioner's designee and the director or the  
27 director's designee or the secretary or the secretary's designee of the  
28 following agencies: The department of transportation, the department  
29 of agriculture, the department of ecology, the department of fish and  
30 wildlife, the department of health, the department of community, trade,  
31 and economic development, the interagency committee for outdoor  
32 recreation, the Puget Sound water quality authority, and the  
33 conservation commission. The members of the council shall coordinate  
34 their watershed planning and implementation activities. Meetings of  
35 the council shall be subject to the provisions of the open public  
36 meetings act.

1 (2) In conjunction with the council's efforts, the commissioner of  
2 public lands shall continue to coordinate the department of natural  
3 resources' landscape planning and implementation activities with  
4 landowners and other interested parties.

5 (3) The council shall coordinate its activities set forth in  
6 section 4 of this act with federal, tribal, and local governments.

7 (4) The directors of the departments of agriculture, fish and  
8 wildlife, and ecology and the commissioner of public lands shall  
9 organize meetings of the council and shall cooperatively ensure a  
10 reasonable level of staff support for the council and for the task  
11 force established in section 5 of this act.

12 (5) The watershed coordinating council shall expire on June 30,  
13 1997.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** By December 15, 1994, the watershed  
15 coordinating council shall provide to the legislature a summary of all  
16 state agency watershed programs, plans, and ongoing activities on a  
17 watershed-by-watershed basis. The council shall also prepare a report  
18 of its recommendations for consideration by the legislature. The  
19 report of recommendations shall include:

20 (1) A recommended definition of the geographical unit for watershed  
21 planning and implementation processes, taking into account the  
22 relationships between smaller watersheds within larger watersheds and  
23 the relationships between adjacent watersheds;

24 (2) Recommendations for the establishment of common protocols  
25 governing data collection and analysis and for a central depository of  
26 information which could be used by all state agencies involved in  
27 watershed planning and implementation processes;

28 (3) Identification of data available from all existing sources  
29 regarding the condition of the state's watersheds;

30 (4) Identification of any barriers to state agency cooperation in  
31 watershed planning and implementation, and recommendations to overcome  
32 such barriers;

33 (5) Recommendations for minimizing duplication, segmentation, and  
34 overlap, and identification of proposals for improving efficiency in  
35 watershed planning and implementation; and

36 (6) Recommendations for new sources of funding and reallocation of  
37 existing state funding sources for watershed planning and  
38 implementation.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 5.**        (1) The legislature establishes the  
2 watershed policy task force to make recommendations on policies for the  
3 legislature to consider. The task force shall be established by May 1,  
4 1994, and shall complete its tasks and report to the legislature by  
5 December 1, 1995. The task force shall expire on June 30, 1996.

6        (2) The watershed policy task force shall complete the following  
7 tasks:

8        (a) The development of recommendations for goals and measurable  
9 objectives for watersheds in the state of Washington. Such goals and  
10 measurable objectives shall recognize the unique characteristics and  
11 circumstances of each watershed. The goals and measurable objectives  
12 recommended shall address at least the following values inherent in  
13 watersheds: Fish and wildlife, water, beneficial economic uses of  
14 natural resources including timber and fish harvest and agricultural  
15 use, wetlands protection, employment, recreation, and educational  
16 opportunities;

17        (b) The identification of proposed strategies for establishing and  
18 funding locally or regionally based watershed planning and  
19 implementation activities which would help achieve the goals and  
20 measurable objectives proposed for adoption by the legislature;

21        (c) Identification of barriers to cooperation and possible  
22 incentives to encourage local governments, tribal governments, private  
23 landowners, and citizen participation in watershed planning and  
24 implementation;

25        (d) Recommendations for legislative policy changes to integrate  
26 state watershed planning and its implementation with land use planning  
27 and regulation responsibilities of local governments under the growth  
28 management act and other relevant acts; and

29        (e) Recommendations for coordination with student and citizen  
30 watershed protection efforts.

31        (3) Members may be appointed by May 1, 1994, to the task force as  
32 follows:

33        (a) The watershed coordinating council shall appoint four of its  
34 members to the task force;

35        (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two  
36 members to the task force, one from the majority party and one from the  
37 minority party;

1 (c) The president of the senate shall appoint two members to the  
2 task force, one from the majority party and one from the minority  
3 party; and

4 (d) The governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and  
5 the president of the senate shall jointly appoint twelve additional  
6 members to the task force. The members so appointed shall be selected  
7 to represent each of the following interests: Small private forest  
8 landowners, large private forest landowners, agricultural interests  
9 east of the crest of the Cascade mountains, agricultural interests west  
10 of the crest of the Cascade mountains, commercial fishing, recreational  
11 fishing, labor interests from a natural resource related union,  
12 federally recognized Indian tribes, the environmental community (two  
13 members), cities, and counties. The task force shall encourage a  
14 representative from federal land resource management agencies to attend  
15 and participate in task force meetings.

16 (4) For the purposes of this section, "measurable objective" means  
17 a results-oriented objective against which general state goals and  
18 specific individual watershed goals can be evaluated as to current and  
19 continuing progress in meeting such goals.

--- END ---