

2 **ESSB 6666** - CONF REPT  
3 By Conference Committee

4 ADOPTED 3/7/96

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington's  
8 lakes, particularly urban and suburban lakes, are experiencing  
9 pollution problems. There are frequent conflicts between shoreline  
10 property owners, who want a lake free of nuisance and noxious aquatic  
11 weeds for health, natural habitat, and recreation purposes, and local  
12 and state agencies, who are charged with protecting water quality and  
13 habitat quality in the lakes. Human-caused pollution and natural  
14 factors that cause the growth of the nuisance and noxious aquatic weeds  
15 in lakes often have diffuse sources and can create dangerous  
16 conditions.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is created a committee to develop a  
18 Washington state lake health plan. The lake health plan shall include,  
19 but not be limited to, the following elements:

20 (1) An overview of the science of lakes management in general, and  
21 aquatic weeds in particular, using peer-reviewed studies and prior  
22 completed environmental impact statements, where possible. This  
23 scientific overview should identify and critically evaluate the various  
24 methods and techniques available for lake restoration and weed  
25 management;

26 (2) An analysis of the existing federal and state statutes,  
27 regulations, and policies dealing with lakes management. The plan  
28 shall provide recommendations on how to eliminate conflicts and  
29 inconsistencies in these legal requirements;

30 (3) An assessment of, and recommendations addressing, the problems  
31 arising from overlapping state and local agency programs and  
32 procedures;

33 (4) Recommendations on sources of state and local funding for lakes  
34 management. The funding mechanisms should reflect a preference for

1 local solutions, and on involving all of the contributors to a lake's  
2 pollution in the funding of lake management expenses; and

3 (5) A plan or program to provide public information and education  
4 concerning how to prevent lake pollution and improve lake health. The  
5 committee shall consist of up to two senate members from each caucus of  
6 the senate, selected by the president of the senate and up to two  
7 representatives from each caucus of the house of representatives,  
8 selected by the speaker of the house of representatives. The committee  
9 may create advisory groups to assist them in evaluating these issues  
10 and shall consult with the following:

11 (a) Lakeside homeowners, lake users, and other citizens interested  
12 in lake water quality;

13 (b) The director or designee from the departments of fish and  
14 wildlife, health, ecology, natural resources, and agriculture;

15 (c) County governments and local health departments from both the  
16 east side and the west side of the state;

17 (d) Cities;

18 (e) Scientific and academic specialists; and

19 (f) Pesticide applicators.

20 Staff support for the committee shall be provided by the office of  
21 program research in the house of representatives and by senate  
22 committee services.

23 The committee shall submit a plan with statutory recommendations,  
24 if any, to the legislature by January 1, 1998.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of ecology shall expedite  
26 requests for approval for the application of state or federally  
27 registered pesticides by licensed pesticide applicators, including the  
28 use of herbicides such as copper sulfate or diquat, to control nuisance  
29 and noxious weeds in lakes managed under chapter 90.24 RCW. Approval  
30 for the application of pesticides is subject to compliance with state  
31 and federal pesticide laws. The department of ecology shall condition  
32 the permits to ensure that fish within the watershed are not  
33 significantly affected. The department of ecology may require  
34 applicators to provide reasonable notification to shoreline residents  
35 before application and to post signs describing swimming and fishing  
36 restrictions. The department of ecology may require sampling by the  
37 local health department to assess the biological effects of pesticide

1 treatments and effects on human and animal health of toxic algae. This  
2 section shall expire April 1, 1998.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
6 effect immediately."

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10 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "weeds;" strike the remainder  
11 of the title and insert "creating new sections; providing an expiration  
12 date; and declaring an emergency."

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