

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SHB 1341

As Reported By House Committee On:
Natural Resources

Title: An act relating to watercraft excise tax.

Brief Description: Changing watercraft excise tax provisions.

Sponsors: House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Fuhrman, Buck, Sehlin, Carrell, Romero, Ogden, Regala, Jacobsen and Basich; by request of Parks and Recreation Commission).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Natural Resources: 1/23/96, 1/30/96 [DP2S].

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Majority Report: The second substitute bill be substituted therefor and the second substitute bill do pass. Signed by 15 members: Representatives Fuhrman, Chairman; Buck, Vice Chairman; Pennington, Vice Chairman; Basich, Ranking Minority Member; Regala, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Beeksma; Elliot; Hatfield; Jacobsen; Keiser; Sheldon; Stevens; B. Thomas; L. Thomas and Thompson.

Staff: Linda Byers (786-7129).

Background: A watercraft excise tax is imposed on many vessels operating in the state's waters. The excise tax assessment is 0.5 percent of fair market value of the vessel or \$5, whichever is greater. The tax revenues are deposited in the state general fund.

From 1989 through 1995, the Legislature provided that up to \$1 million per year of watercraft excise tax revenues could go to support boating programs. A specific appropriation was necessary in order to direct revenues to boating programs, and the Legislature provided that any funds so directed would be distributed as follows: