

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5483

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C 391 L 97  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Licensing whitewater river outfitters.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Senators Johnson, Oke, Snyder, Prentice, Kohl, Rossi, Spanel, Swecker and Schow).

**Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks**  
**House Committee on Natural Resources**

**Background:** Whitewater river outfitters and guides may register with the Department of Licensing. A whitewater outfitter and guide licensing program with minimum age, training and licensing requirements would provide for a more tightly regulated whitewater rafting industry.

**Summary:** A whitewater river outfitters license is created. Persons who operate as whitewater outfitters must be licensed, hire trained guides, carry sufficient insurance, and comply with equipment and training requirements established in statute.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	45	4
House	87	11 (House amended)
Senate	37	6 (Senate concurred)

**Effective:** July 27, 1997  
January 1, 1998 (Sections 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8)