

---

SENATE BILL 5148

---

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen and Oke

Read first time 01/16/97. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to production of game birds at game farms operated  
2 by the department of fish and wildlife; adding a new section to chapter  
3 77.12 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the Whidbey  
6 Island game farm is uniquely adapted to producing pheasants for  
7 planting in areas in western Washington. A combination of low  
8 rainfall, zero threat of flooding, good management, and adequate  
9 facilities make the site consistently productive. The legislature  
10 finds that total reliance upon one pheasant rearing site in western  
11 Washington is not prudent management of the resource.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 The director shall operate the Whidbey Island game farm for all  
15 phases of producing pheasants for the western Washington pheasant  
16 release program. The Whidbey Island game farm shall be operated in  
17 conjunction with the Centralia game farm to achieve the production  
18 goals of the western Washington pheasant program.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The director of fish and wildlife shall  
2    conduct a site feasibility study for the development of new department  
3    of fish and wildlife-operated upland bird farms.    Sites shall be  
4    evaluated from all areas of the state to assess the best sites for  
5    increased production of upland birds for public hunting purposes.    The  
6    director shall report to the appropriate legislative committees no  
7    later than December 31, 1997.    The report shall include analysis of  
8    abandoned department-operated game farms, new sites, and sites which  
9    may be operated in conjunction with cooperative groups.

--- END ---