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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6114**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Oke, Spanel, Kline, Snyder and Haugen)

Read first time 02/02/98.

1       AN ACT Relating to prevention and control of nonindigenous aquatic  
2 species; adding new sections to chapter 75.24 RCW; creating new  
3 sections; making appropriations; providing an expiration date; and  
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.** The unauthorized introduction of the zebra  
7 mussel and the European green crab into Washington state waters would  
8 pose a serious economic and environmental threat. The zebra mussel and  
9 European green crab have adverse impacts on fisheries, waterways,  
10 public and private facilities, and the functioning of natural  
11 ecosystems. The threat of zebra mussels and European green crabs  
12 requires a coordinated response. It is the intent of the legislature  
13 to prevent adverse economic and environmental impacts caused by zebra  
14 mussels and European green crabs in cooperation and coordination with  
15 local governments, the public, other states, and federal agencies.

16       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.24 RCW  
17 to read as follows:

1 To complement programs authorized by the federal aquatic nuisance  
2 species task force, the department of fish and wildlife is directed to  
3 develop draft rules for legislative consideration to prevent the  
4 introduction and dispersal of zebra mussels and European green crabs  
5 and to allow eradication of infestations that may occur. The  
6 department is authorized to display and distribute material and  
7 literature informing boaters and owners of airplanes that land on water  
8 of the problem and to publicize and maintain a telephone number  
9 available to the public to express concerns and report infestations.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 75.24 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 The department of fish and wildlife shall prepare, maintain, and  
13 publish a list of all lakes, ponds, or other waters of the state and  
14 other states infested with zebra mussels or European green crabs. The  
15 department may participate in regional or national groups addressing  
16 these species.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The state shall develop a plan for  
18 controlling the introduction of zebra mussels and European green crabs.  
19 A zebra mussel and European green crab task force is created. The  
20 task force is chaired by the department of fish and wildlife.

21 The task force shall:

22 (1) Develop recommendations for legislative consideration  
23 including: (a) Control methods; (b) inspection procedures; (c)  
24 penalties; (d) notification procedures; and (e) eradication and control  
25 techniques.

26 (2) For each threat, identify the primary pathways of introduction,  
27 options for regulating each pathway, and if possible a recommended  
28 method of pathway control. These methods of control shall include  
29 details on what entity would be responsible for its implementation.

30 (3) For each recommended mechanism of pathway control, identify the  
31 estimated costs of implementing a state program, including ideas of  
32 funding sources.

33 (4) Provide recommendations for how to structure and fund a state  
34 program that monitors the detection and spread of these species.

35 When making recommendations, the task force shall emphasize working  
36 in a coordinated fashion with existing state, federal, and  
37 international programs.

1 The task force shall invite participation from all groups affected  
2 by the proposed pathway control measures, including representatives of  
3 aquaculture, recreational boating, seaplane operators, maritime cargo  
4 vessels, retail and wholesale aquariums, shellfish growers, marinas,  
5 and small boat harbors.

6 The department of fish and wildlife shall also seek the  
7 participation of the University of Washington, the department of  
8 ecology, the department of agriculture, the department of  
9 transportation, the department of natural resources, and the Washington  
10 state patrol. Appropriate federal interests shall also be invited to  
11 participate, including the United States coast guard, the United States  
12 department of agriculture and the United States fish and wildlife  
13 service.

14 The task force's final recommendations shall be provided to the  
15 legislature by December 1, 1998.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of five thousand dollars, or as much  
17 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending  
18 June 30, 1998, from the general fund to the department of fish and  
19 wildlife to coordinate and support an interagency response team,  
20 provided solely to design a monitoring program, participate in regional  
21 coordination, conduct public education, and implement other provisions  
22 as required in chapter . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act) and this amount  
23 lapses if it is not applied to or needed for this purpose.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of forty thousand dollars, or as  
25 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year  
26 ending June 30, 1999, from the general fund to the department of fish  
27 and wildlife to coordinate and support an interagency response team,  
28 provided solely to design a monitoring program, participate in regional  
29 coordination, conduct public education, and implement other provisions  
30 as required in chapter . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act) and this amount  
31 lapses if it is not applied to or needed for this purpose.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Section 4 of this act expires January 1,  
33 1999.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
35 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

- 1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
- 2 immediately.

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