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SENATE BILL 6231

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove, Anderson, Snyder, Swecker, T. Sheldon, Oke and Goings

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

- 1 AN ACT Relating to natural area preserves; and creating new
- 2 sections.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** There is a two-year moratorium on the
- 5 expansion of any existing natural area preserves or the creation of any
- 6 new natural area preserves under chapter 79.70 RCW.
- 7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The senate natural resources and parks
- 8 committee and the ways and means committee, the house of
- 9 representatives natural resources committee, in concert with all
- 10 relevant agencies and interested groups shall study the following
- 11 aspects of the natural area preserves program created under chapter
- 12 79.70 RCW:
- 13 (1) The goals of the program;
- 14 (2) The cost of the program;
- 15 (3) The adequacy of the current natural area preserve lands for
- 16 scientific studies;
- 17 (4) Department of natural resources goals and costs;
- 18 (5) Public use issues;

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- 1 (6) The cost of personnel and equipment to ensure that the public 2 is not allowed access;
- 3 (7) How many natural area preserves, specified by environmental 4 area, are left to be put into the program, and the cost of the proposed 5 land and future management costs;
- 6 (8) Sources of continued maintenance funding, including funding 7 from users including K-12 educational programs and higher education 8 institutions;
- 9 (9) The criteria used to ensure that environmental areas are not 10 duplicated; and
- 11 (10) The adequacy of the public's and local government's input 12 concerning the selection of lands to be designated as natural area 13 preserves.
- The study required under this section shall be submitted to the legislature by November 1, 2000.

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