
SENATE BILL 6593

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Swecker, Rasmussen and Morton

Read first time 01/22/98. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to the department of natural resources; adding new
2 sections to chapter 79.90 RCW; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 79.90 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The legislature recognizes the importance of aquaculture, including
7 finfish net-pen aquaculture, to the state of Washington. When
8 practiced in an environmentally safe manner, finfish net-pen
9 aquaculture provides long-term economic benefits, fosters water-
10 dependent uses of state waters, and encompasses activities that should
11 be promoted by the state. Recognizing the desirability of aquaculture,
12 the legislature finds that there is a need to identify locations for
13 finfish net-pen aquaculture that will reduce land-use conflicts and
14 adverse environmental impacts.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 79.90 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 The department of natural resources shall study establishment of
18 finfish net-pen aquaculture zones within the Strait of Juan de Fuca,

1 selecting locations which (1) reduce land-use conflicts, (2) minimize
2 competition with other water-dependent uses, (3) limit adverse
3 environmental impacts, and (4) provide optimal marine and weather
4 conditions for finfish net pens.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of fifty thousand dollars, or as
6 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
7 ending June 30, 1998, from the aquatic lands RMCA fund balance to the
8 department of natural resources for the purposes of the study in
9 section 2 of this act. The department shall report its findings to the
10 legislature by January 1, 1999.

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