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Sponsor(s): Representatives Keiser and McCune

Brief Title: Creating the environmental restoration and improvement account.

HB 2755 - DIGEST

Finds that environmental pollution incidents and other violations of state environmental laws result in fines and penalties which are presently used for a variety of purposes unrelated to restoring the damage caused by the pollution or otherwise benefiting the air, water, and other natural resources enjoyed by Washington citizens.

Declares that the purpose of this act is to dedicate environmental fines and penalties to the restoration and improvement of Washington's environmental quality, and to ensure that communities in which environmental violations occur have a greater voice in determining the expenditure of ensuing settlement funds.

Directs the state treasurer to deposit in the environmental restoration and improvement account created in this act all money received from fines and penalties imposed under RCW 90.48.140, 70.94.430, 90.56.300, 70.105.085, 70.95.240, 90.95.560, and 70.107.070.

Requires that, for proposed expenditures from the coastal protection fund to be made for environmental restoration and enhancement, the director shall consult with local and tribal governments in the vicinity and with community and civic organizations with members residing in that vicinity.