

6156-S2

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Swecker, Fraser and Spanel; by request of Department of Natural Resources)

Brief Title: Studying methods for calculating water-dependent lease rates on state-owned aquatic lands.

SB 6156-S2 - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Directs the department of natural resources to study and prepare a report to the legislature on alternatives to the current method for determination of water-dependent rent set forth in RCW 79.90.480. The report shall be prepared with the assistance of appropriate outside economic expertise and stakeholder involvement.

Provides that, for each alternative, the report shall: (1) Describe each method and the costs and benefits of each; (2) compare each with the current method of calculating rents; (3) provide the private industry perspective; (4) describe the public perspective; (5) analyze the impact on state lease revenue; and (6) evaluate the ease of administration.

Requires the report to be presented to the legislature by November 1, 1998, with the recommendations of the department clearly identified. The department's recommendations shall include draft legislation as necessary for implementation of its recommendations.

Provides that the annual rental rates in effect on December 31, 1997, shall remain in effect until July 1, 1999.

Provides that the act shall be null and void if appropriations are not approved.