

6328

Sponsor(s): Senators Oke, Jacobsen and Swecker; by request of Department of Fish and Wildlife

Brief Title: Enacting the fish and wildlife code enforcement.

**SB 6328 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Finds that merger of the departments of fisheries and wildlife resulted in two criminal codes applicable to fish and wildlife, and that it has become increasingly difficult to administer and enforce the two criminal codes. Furthermore, laws defining crimes involving fish and wildlife have evolved over many years of changing uses and management objectives for fish and wildlife. The resulting two codes make it difficult for citizens to comply with the law and unnecessarily complicate enforcement of laws against violators.

Declares an intent to revise and recodify the criminal laws governing fish and wildlife, ensuring that all people involved with fish and wildlife are able to know and understand the requirements of the laws and the risks of violation. Additionally, the legislature intends to create a more uniform approach to criminal laws governing fish and wildlife and to the laws authorizing prosecution, sentencing, and punishments, including defining new crimes and repealing crimes that are redundant to other provisions of the criminal code.