

2 **2SHB 1681** - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Ways & Means

4 ADOPTED 4/8/99

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is beneficial
8 to improve opportunities for trout fishing in order to satisfy the
9 public's demand for recreational fishing during a time of declining
10 opportunities to catch anadromous salmon and steelhead trout.

11 Fish farmers can produce trout in a triploid genetic configuration
12 for the purpose of certifying that the fish are sterile and that they
13 cannot interbreed with wild trout. These fish are ideally suited to
14 planting into public lakes and ponds to provide immediate recreational
15 fishing at a reasonable cost. The fish continue to grow throughout
16 their life cycle and have the potential to grow to trophy size.

17 Planting of these catchable trout can provide increased angler
18 participation, increased fishing license sales, increased tourism
19 activities, and a boost to local economies.

20 The department of fish and wildlife is authorized to purchase these
21 privately produced fish to supplement existing department trout
22 hatchery production. The planting of these catchable trout in water
23 bodies with water quality sufficient to support fish life must not have
24 an adverse impact on the wild trout population.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The fish and wildlife commission in
26 consultation with the department is authorized to determine which
27 waters of the state are appropriate for this use during the 1999 and
28 2000 calendar years. In making this determination, the commission
29 shall seek geographic distribution to assure opportunity to fishers
30 state-wide.

31 The commission in consultation with the department will determine
32 the maximum number of fish that may be planted into state waters so as
33 not to compete with the wild populations of fish species in the water
34 body.

