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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2383**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Regala, G. Chandler, Anderson, Linville, Fisher, Scott, Kenney, Lovick, Haigh, Lantz, Wood, Santos, Edmonds and Ogden)

Read first time 01/28/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to aquatic nuisance species; and adding a new  
2 section to chapter 77.12 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The aquatic nuisance species committee is created for the  
7 purpose of fostering state, federal, tribal, and private cooperation on  
8 aquatic nuisance species issues. The mission of the committee is to  
9 minimize the unauthorized or accidental introduction of nonnative  
10 aquatic species and give special emphasis to preventing the  
11 introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species. The term "aquatic  
12 nuisance species" means a nonnative aquatic plant or animal species  
13 that threatens the diversity or abundance of native species, the  
14 ecological stability of infested waters, or commercial, agricultural,  
15 or recreational activities dependent on such waters.

16 (2) The committee consists of representatives from each of the  
17 following state agencies: Department of fish and wildlife, department  
18 of ecology, department of agriculture, department of health, department  
19 of natural resources, Puget Sound water quality action team, state

1 patrol, state noxious weed control board, and Washington sea grant  
2 program. The committee shall encourage and solicit participation by:  
3 Federally recognized tribes of Washington, federal agencies, Washington  
4 conservation organizations, and representatives from industries that  
5 may either be affected by the introduction of an aquatic nuisance  
6 species or that may serve as a pathway for their introduction.

7 (3) The committee has the following duties:

8 (a) Periodically revise the state of Washington aquatic nuisance  
9 species management plan, originally published in June 1998;

10 (b) Make recommendations to the legislature on statutory provisions  
11 for classifying and regulating aquatic nuisance species;

12 (c) Recommend to the state noxious weed control board that a plant  
13 be classified under the process designated by RCW 17.10.080 as an  
14 aquatic noxious weed;

15 (d) Coordinate education, research, regulatory authorities,  
16 monitoring and control programs, and participate in regional and  
17 national efforts regarding aquatic nuisance species;

18 (e) Consult with representatives from industries and other  
19 activities that may serve as a pathway for the introduction of aquatic  
20 nuisance species to develop practical strategies that will minimize the  
21 risk of new introductions; and

22 (f) Prepare a biennial report to the legislature with the first  
23 report due by December 1, 2001, making recommendations for better  
24 accomplishing the purposes of this chapter, and listing the  
25 accomplishments of this chapter to date.

26 (4) The committee shall accomplish its duties through the authority  
27 and cooperation of its member agencies. Implementation of all plans  
28 and programs developed by the committee shall be through the member  
29 agencies and other cooperating organizations.

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