
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5067

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Environmental Quality & Water Resources
(originally sponsored by Senators Morton and Brown)

Read first time 03/03/99.

1 AN ACT Relating to the reclamation, closure, or decommissioning of
2 a uranium or thorium mill or tailings facility; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The Washington state institute for public
6 policy shall conduct a study of the formal and informal administrative
7 procedures used by the department of health in its most recent approval
8 of the closure and reclamation of an 11e(2) low-level uranium mill site
9 located in a county, east of the crest of the Cascade mountains, with
10 a population of less than forty thousand. The goals of the study are
11 to recommend improvements to the agency's procedures and ensure that,
12 when the state or federal government reviews the closure and
13 reclamation of any uranium mines, public funds are not placed at risk
14 due to inadequate licensing and bonding procedures.

15 The study shall include: A review of applicable federal and state
16 laws and agency rules, policies, and procedures related to the closure
17 and reclamation of uranium mill and mine sites; the process for
18 establishing the amount of the closure and reclamation bonds for such
19 sites; an examination of the relevant public notification and review

1 process; and recommendations for improving the procedures and
2 protecting public funds when the state or federal government reviews
3 future closure and reclamation plans for uranium mill and mine sites.
4 The study shall be completed and delivered to the governor and the
5 legislature by September 1, 2000.

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