
SENATE BILL 5354

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators T. Sheldon, Swecker, Oke, Stevens, B. Sheldon, Snyder and Hargrove

Read first time 01/20/1999. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to geoduck diver licenses; and amending RCW
2 75.28.750.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 75.28.750 and 1993 c 340 s 24 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Every diver engaged in the commercial harvest of geoduck clams
7 shall obtain a ((nontransferable)) geoduck diver license.

8 (2) After July 1, 1999, the director shall issue no new geoduck
9 diver licenses unless fewer than fifty persons are eligible for
10 renewal. A person may renew an existing license only if the person
11 held a geoduck diver license for five of the eight years 1991 through
12 1998 or acquired the license by transfer from someone who held it
13 during the previous year, and if the person has not subsequently
14 transferred the license to another person.

15 (3) If fewer than fifty persons are eligible to renew a geoduck
16 diver license, the director may accept applications for new licenses.
17 The department shall adopt rules and procedures to determine whether
18 additional diver licenses will be issued and the application procedure.
19 The director shall determine by random selection, from all otherwise

1 qualified applicants, the successful applicants for any additional
2 licenses.

3 (4) When the person failed to obtain the license during the
4 previous year because of a license suspension, the person may qualify
5 for a license by establishing that the person held such a license
6 during the last year in which the license was not suspended.

7 (5) Geoduck diver licenses are transferable only to a natural
8 person. The license holder must perform the actual harvesting.

9 (6) Licensed geoduck harvesters will bear the responsibility for
10 providing the labor to plant onto state commercial beds geoduck seed
11 provided by the state hatchery.

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