

5957-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development (originally sponsored by Senators Johnson, B. Sheldon, McDonald, Hale, Deccio, Costa, Wojahn and Roach)

Brief Title: Creating a food labeling task force.

**SB 5957-S.E - DIGEST**

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/15/99)

Declares that the purpose of this act is to explore ways to improve consumer information, consumer choice, and market demand for domestically grown agricultural products, including a "Grown in Washington" promotional program and country of origin labeling.

Creates a food labeling task force to conduct an inquiry into and, by December 10, 1999, make recommendations to the legislature regarding: (1) Country of origin labeling, for retail sale to the ultimate consumer, of agricultural products including bulk fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, fish, and milk products; and

(2) the feasibility of developing a "Grown in Washington" promotional program for agricultural products produced in Washington state.

Expires December 31, 1999.