

6872

Sponsor(s): Senators Fraser, Jacobsen and Swecker

Brief Description: Expediting the processing of pending applications relating to existing water rights.

SB 6872 - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Finds that the size of the current backlog of applications relating to existing water rights should be reduced.

Declares an intent to allow pending applications relating to existing water rights to be processed independently of pending applications for new water rights and without regard to possible impairment of pending applications for new water rights.

Declares an intent that timely processing of all water rights applications for the same source of supply in the order in which they were filed should occur to the extent allowed by funding appropriated to the department of ecology.

Requires the department to report to the legislature in July and January of each year regarding the numbers, types, and locations of applications for water rights processed during the preceding six months. The report submitted each July shall also address applications to be processed during the ensuing year.

Expires February 1, 2003.