
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4401

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Rockefeller, Woods, Hunt and Lantz

Read first time 01/15/2001. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that there has been an
2 increase in the number of derelict vessels that have been
3 abandoned by their owners and that are either grounded or anchored
4 upon state-owned aquatic lands; and

5 WHEREAS, These vessels often pose hazards to navigation, and
6 threaten the environment with the potential release of hazardous
7 materials; and

8 WHEREAS, The legislature finds that the solution used by the
9 United States coast guard and the army corps of engineers of
10 sinking derelict vessels into deep water can still result in the
11 release of hazardous materials and can also disrupt the natural
12 structure of bedlands; and

13 WHEREAS, The legislature further finds that the costs
14 associated with the disposal of derelict vessels are very high,
15 and that there is generally no way to track down the vessel owners
16 in order to seek compensation;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives
18 of the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That a joint
19 select committee on the disposal of derelict vessels be
20 established to review the current duties and responsibilities of

1 vessel owners, the department of natural resources, and federal
2 agencies regarding derelict vessels, and to develop
3 recommendations for the disposal and for funding the disposal of
4 derelict vessels; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee consist of eight
6 members, four members selected by the President of the Senate,
7 with two members from each of the two major political parties; and
8 four members selected by the Co-Speakers of the House of
9 Representatives, with two members appointed by each Co-Speaker;
10 and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the staffing for the joint select
12 committee be provided by the house office of program research and
13 senate committee services; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings
15 and recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2002.

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