
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5024

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Shorelines
(originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Oke and Carlson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to policies of the parks and recreation
2 commission; adding a new section to chapter 79A.05 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) All lands known as public parks and parkways, and
7 recreational, natural, cultural, and historic sites are unique
8 public treasures preserved for the benefit, vitality, and
9 enjoyment of the public; and

10 (b) All lands administered by the state parks and recreation
11 commission are significant to the state of Washington, requiring
12 thoughtful stewardship and appropriate use to ensure their
13 preservation for and availability to future generations.

14 (2) Based on the foregoing, the legislature declares that it is
15 the mission of the commission to acquire, operate, enhance, and
16 protect a diverse system of recreational, cultural, historic, and
17 natural sites, and foster outdoor recreation and environmental

1 education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all, a
2 valued legacy to future generations, and perpetuate the character
3 and culture of the citizenry.

4 (3) Towards these ends, in addition to the policies set forth
5 in RCW 79A.05.305, the state parks and recreation commission,
6 using its own resources and through partnerships with private and
7 public entities shall:

8 (a) Protect and preserve natural, recreational, cultural, and
9 historical resources of significance to the state;

10 (b) Foster public enjoyment, understanding, appreciation, and
11 safe use of these resources through education;

12 (c) Host a wide range of public recreation experiences to renew
13 the human spirit;

14 (d) Welcome visitors from all cultural, ethnic, and social
15 backgrounds, as well as seniors, youth, and the physically and
16 mentally challenged;

17 (e) Provide safe, attractive, high-quality facilities and
18 programs to those who use the state's park system; and

19 (f) Promote state and community tourism and economic vitality.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.05
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 In addition to other duties the commission may from time to
23 time impose, it is the duty of the director to, on or before
24 December 1st of each even-numbered year, provide to the
25 legislature a comprehensive summary report of all state parks and
26 recreation operations to reflect the previous fiscal period.

27 (1) The summary report shall include, but not be limited to,
28 descriptions of all department activities including: Revenues
29 generated, program costs, capital expenditures, personnel, special
30 projects, condition of the infrastructure, new and ongoing
31 research, environmental controls, cooperative projects,
32 intergovernmental agreements, outlines of ongoing litigation, and
33 recent court decisions and orders on major issues with the
34 potential for state liability.

35 (2) The summary report shall describe the operation of the park
36 system including park utilization details and trends,

1 opportunities to improve services, and public desires for new
2 services.

3 (3) The summary report may include other information and
4 recommendations as the director deems useful.

5 (4) The summary report must be delivered to the chairs of the
6 following legislative committees or their successor committees:

7 (a) Senate natural resources, parks, and shorelines;

8 (b) Senate ways and means;

9 (c) Senate transportation;

10 (d) House natural resources;

11 (e) House appropriations;

12 (f) House capital budget; and

13 (g) House transportation.

14 (5) One copy of the summary report must also be delivered to
15 the staff of each of the committees. The summary report must be
16 made available to the public.

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