
SENATE BILL 5379

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford, Patterson, Hale, Hewitt, Parlette, Swecker,
Winsley, Finkbeiner and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/22/2001. Referred to Committee on State & Local
Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the official animal of the state of
2 Washington; adding a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the
6 cougar, *Puma concolor*, also known as the mountain lion, is the
7 largest cat in Washington and the second largest in North
8 America. The state of Washington has designated an official state
9 tree, grass, flower, fruit, bird, fossil, fish, insect, song, folk
10 song, and dance, but not an official state animal. The cougar is an
11 integral part of the Pacific Northwest, prowling the forests and
12 mountains of the north Cascades. Children of our state are keenly
13 aware of the importance of the cougar as a symbol of power,
14 beauty, and mystery. The legislature finds that the cougar is a
15 state treasure, and deserving of recognition as the official state
16 animal.

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1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW
2 to read as follows:
3 The cougar, *Puma concolor*, is designated as the official animal
4 of the state of Washington.

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