
SENATE BILL 6725

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen, Swecker and Sheahan

Read first time 01/29/2002. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & International Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to acts of violence against agricultural research
2 and agricultural production facilities; amending RCW 4.24.630; creating
3 a new section; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Agricultural research facilities and
6 agricultural production facilities have become targets of terrorist and
7 violent activities. Campaigns of violence using intimidation,
8 obstruction, and terrorism are aimed at closing these facilities.
9 Actions are not only illegal, but this violence imposes extreme
10 suffering and loss to individuals and poses a threat to property and
11 human life.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 4.24.630 and 1999 c 248 s 2 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 (1) Every person who goes onto the land of another and who removes
15 timber, crops, minerals, or other similar valuable property from the
16 land, or wrongfully causes waste or injury to the land, or wrongfully
17 injures personal property or improvements to real estate on the land,

1 is liable to the injured party for treble the amount of the damages
2 caused by the removal, waste, or injury.

3 (2) Every person who wrongfully injures, interferes with,
4 interrupts, intimidates, obstructs, or threatens to injure, interfere
5 with, interrupt, intimidate, or obstruct an agricultural research
6 facility or agricultural production facility is liable to the injured
7 party for treble the amount of damages caused by the injury,
8 interference, interruption, intimidation, obstruction, or threat. As
9 used in this subsection, "agricultural research facility" and
10 "agricultural production facility" refer to facilities conducting
11 research on or involved in the production of products subject to Title
12 15 RCW.

13 (3) For purposes of this section, a person acts "wrongfully" if the
14 person intentionally and unreasonably commits the act or acts while
15 knowing, or having reason to know, that he or she lacks authorization
16 to so act. Damages recoverable under this section include, but are not
17 limited to, damages for the market value of the property removed or
18 injured, and for injury to the land, including the costs of
19 restoration. In addition, the person is liable for reimbursing the
20 injured party for the party's reasonable costs, including but not
21 limited to investigative costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and other
22 litigation-related costs.

23 ~~((2))~~ (4) This section does not apply in any case where liability
24 for damages is provided under RCW 64.12.030, 79.01.756, 79.01.760,
25 79.40.070, or where there is immunity from liability under RCW
26 64.12.035.

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