
**Fisheries, Ecology & Parks
Committee**

SB 5898

Brief Description: Studying recreational boating safety.

Sponsors: Senators Oke, Doumit, Esser, Jacobsen, Swecker, Fraser and Shin.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Directs the State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Boating Safety Advisory Council to research and recommend ways to reduce boating accidents, fatalities, and near misses.

Hearing Date: 3/27/03

Staff: Jeff Olsen (786-7157).

Background:

The State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) coordinates a statewide program of boating safety education. The boating safety program provides assistance in training, equipment and materials to local groups in carrying out a network of boating safety education and law enforcement activities.

Summary of Bill:

The Commission and the Boating Safety Advisory Council must research and recommend ways to reduce boating accidents, fatalities, and near misses. The research should also include recognition of the need for homeland security precautions for boaters. The Commission must investigate a variety of methods for achieving safer boating practices, identify costs and potential sources of funding, and report to the Legislature by January 1, 2004.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.