
SENATE BILL 6333

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senators Morton, T. Sheldon and Roach

Read first time 01/19/2004. Referred to Committee on Parks, Fish & Wildlife.

1 AN ACT Relating to metal detectors in state parks; adding new
2 sections to chapter 79A.05 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature that
5 those significant historic archaeological resources on state park lands
6 that are of importance to the history of our state, or its communities,
7 be protected for the people of the state. At the same time, the
8 legislature also recognizes that the recreational use of metal
9 detectors in state parks is a legitimate form of recreation that can be
10 compatible with the protection of significant historic archaeological
11 resources.

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

14 By September 1, 2005, the commission shall open all developed and
15 common use areas of state parks for the recreational use of metal
16 detectors. Any items discovered of historic archaeological
17 significance must be turned in to the state either through the

1 commission or the office of archaeology and historic preservation
2 within the department of community, trade, and economic development.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.05 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) If the commission determines that a park or a portion of a park
6 must be exempted from metal detecting because of its historic
7 archaeological resources, the commission must, by December 1, 2005,
8 submit a brief report to the appropriate standing committees of the
9 legislature as to how they and a professional archaeologist made this
10 determination.

11 (2) It is the intent of this section to not allow blanket
12 exemptions but to ensure the preservation for the public of proven
13 historic archaeological resources.

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