

5201-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections
(originally sponsored by Senators Roach, Horn, Swecker, Esser and
Honeyford)

Brief Description: Creating a work group to study volunteer amateur
radio emergency communications.

SB 5201-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that, to further the public purpose of encouraging
the expansion of the ham radio network, a work group shall be
convened.

Requires the work group to submit a written report to the
governor and to the appropriate standing committees of the
legislature by December 1, 2003. The report shall include, but not
be limited to, recommendations for regulating ham radio antenna
heights in urban areas; for a credential to indicate that the
person holding it is a trained and qualified emergency worker
within the context of chapter 38.52 RCW; and for encouraging the
expansion of the ham radio network so that ideally there are no
inhabited areas of the state without communication links for use in
emergencies.

Appropriates the sum of five hundred dollars, or as much
thereof as may be necessary, for the fiscal year ending June 30,
2004, from the general fund to the military department for the
purposes of reimbursing the expenses of participating in and
attending meetings of the work group that are incurred by the
private citizens serving as representatives of the ham radio
community, to whom no other compensation is provided.