
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1595

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives McDermott, Woods, Cody, Jarrett, Clibborn and Dunn)

READ FIRST TIME 01/27/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to land acquired from a commercial waterway
2 district; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that commercial
5 waterway districts were created for the purpose of constructing
6 waterways for industrial and commercial development. Subsequently, the
7 property and functions of waterway districts were transferred to port
8 districts, the districts were dissolved, and their governing statutes
9 were repealed. The legislature further finds that private use of
10 former waterway district lands without administrative oversight
11 authority by the public owner is not in the best interest of the public
12 or of taxpayers. Management under port district authority of former
13 commercial waterway district property must be conducted in a manner
14 that maintains the area's economic vitality, protects the environment,
15 and responsibly preserves the public interest in public property.

16 By December 1, 2005, a port district to which the property of a
17 former commercial waterway district was transferred shall report to the
18 chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction regarding port
19 property formerly owned by the waterway district. The report shall, to

1 the extent practicable, include the following information: (1)
2 Existing uses of the port property by those using former waterway
3 district property; (2) a general outline of potential future uses of
4 the public property owned by the port district; (3) the status of the
5 environmental mitigation and cleanup of the waterway that is required
6 by federal and state law; (4) the status of the port district's
7 communication to, and work with, those using former waterway district
8 property as of January 1, 2005; and (5) general terms and conditions of
9 leases the port believes are necessary to give the port adequate
10 control over its property and the general terms and conditions that the
11 port believes will give the current users of the public property
12 continued access to the waterway.

13 This section expires December 31, 2005.

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