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HOUSE BILL 2322

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representative Ormsby

Read first time 04/14/2005. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting the phosphorus content in dishwashing  
2 detergent; and amending RCW 70.95L.005 and 70.95L.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.95L.005 and 1993 c 118 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The legislature hereby finds and declares that:

7 (1) Phosphorus loading of surface waters can stimulate the growth  
8 of weeds and algae, and that such growth can have adverse  
9 environmental, health, and aesthetic effects;

10 (2) Household detergents contribute to phosphorus loading, and that  
11 a limit on detergents containing phosphorus can significantly reduce  
12 the discharge of phosphorus into the state's surface and ground waters;

13 (3) Household detergents containing no or very low phosphorus are  
14 readily available and that over thirty percent of the United States  
15 population lives in areas with a ban on detergents containing  
16 phosphorus; (~~and~~)

17 (4) Phosphorus limits on household detergents can significantly  
18 reduce treatment costs at those sewage treatment facilities that remove  
19 phosphorus from the waste stream; and

1       (5) While significant reductions of phosphorus from laundry  
2 detergent have been accomplished, similar progress in reducing  
3 phosphorus contributions from dishwashing detergents has not been  
4 achieved.

5       It is therefore the intent of the legislature to impose a statewide  
6 limit on the phosphorus content of household detergents.

7       **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.95L.020 and 1993 c 118 s 3 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9       (1) After July 1, 1994, a person may not sell or distribute for  
10 sale a laundry detergent that contains 0.5 percent or more phosphorus  
11 by weight.

12       (2) After July 1, (~~1994~~) 2007, a person may not sell or  
13 distribute for sale a dishwashing detergent that contains (~~8.7~~) 0.5  
14 percent or more phosphorous by weight.

15       (3) This section does not apply to the sale or distribution of  
16 detergents for commercial and industrial uses.

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