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HOUSE BILL 3199

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton, B. Sullivan, Eickmeyer and Cody

Read first time 01/25/2006.                      Referred to Committee on Select  
Committee on Hood Canal.

1            AN ACT Relating to authorizing a geoduck pilot program in the Hood  
2 Canal aquatic rehabilitation zone; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 79.135 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 79.135 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) The department shall implement a pilot program to test the  
8 effectiveness of planting geoducks on state aquatic lands located in  
9 the aquatic rehabilitation zone established in RCW 90.88.010(2). The  
10 program must be developed and implemented in consultation with the  
11 department of fish and wildlife. The program must be designed to use  
12 test plantings and monitoring of geoduck populations on test sites to  
13 determine if harvestable populations may be achieved in a manner that  
14 will maintain healthy geoduck populations, reestablish geoduck  
15 populations in areas affected by low-dissolved oxygen levels, and  
16 increase revenues over that achievable from natural regeneration. The  
17 department shall design the test program to compare geoduck populations  
18 of the test sites with other sites in the aquatic rehabilitation zone  
19 established in RCW 90.88.010(2) providing comparable growing

1 conditions. The department may contract with geoduck harvesters  
2 licensed in accordance with chapter 77.65 RCW to plant the seed and to  
3 monitor geoduck populations on the test sites.

4 (2) The program must be designed to test geoduck populations and  
5 growth rates for a period of at least five years. No later than  
6 December 31, 2011, the department shall report the results of the  
7 program to the appropriate committees of the legislature and make  
8 recommendations as to whether the program should be expanded, otherwise  
9 modified, or terminated.

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