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SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 3287

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Chase, Sump, Eickmeyer, McCoy, Walsh and Pearson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/06.

1            AN ACT Relating to studying nitrogen contributions from on-site  
2 sewage systems in Hood Canal; and creating a new section.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) The legislature finds that nitrogen is  
5 an important factor in creating low-dissolved oxygen in Hood Canal.  
6 The legislature further finds that inputs of nitrogen to Hood Canal  
7 from on-site sewage systems are uncertain due to insufficient data and  
8 studies. Therefore, the legislature finds that improved data on the  
9 contribution of nitrogen from on-site sewage systems to Hood Canal  
10 would allow stakeholders to focus and prioritize resources.

11            (2) The Puget Sound action team and the Hood Canal coordinating  
12 council shall contract for a study in the Hood Canal to:

13            (a) Improve data and knowledge of the loading of nitrogen from on-  
14 site sewage systems to ground water;

15            (b) Determine the local scale efficiency of nitrogen removal from  
16 on-site sewage systems; and

17            (c) Improve data and knowledge of the loading of nitrogen from all  
18 ground water sources to Hood Canal.

19            (3) The study shall:

- 1           (a) Locate representative on-site sewage systems distributed within  
2 the Hood Canal drainage basin for use in the study;
- 3           (b) Collect water levels and samples from the areas around a number  
4 of on-site sewage systems under a variety of water table, soil, and  
5 geologic conditions;
- 6           (c) Test samples for nitrogen, phosphorous, carbon, and other  
7 pertinent chemistry;
- 8           (d) Consider water levels and samples from monitoring wells both up  
9 gradient and down gradient from on-site sewage systems;
- 10          (e) Collect data from drain fields to test on-site sewage system  
11 efficiency; and
- 12          (f) Collect water level, nutrient, and other chemical data from a  
13 number of existing wells in the watershed to test how much nitrogen is  
14 reaching Hood Canal.
- 15          (4) The study shall be coordinated with other studies being  
16 conducted in Hood Canal through the Hood Canal dissolved oxygen  
17 program.
- 18          (5) The Puget Sound action team and the Hood Canal coordinating  
19 council shall report their findings and recommendations to the  
20 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2007.

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