

SB 5968-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that, subject to the availability of funds appropriated specifically for this purpose, the department of agriculture shall contract for a study on the economic and social impact of agricultural fairs on Washington state. This study shall include, but is not limited to, developing information on (1) the statewide and local impacts of fairs on employment, business income, taxes resulting from fair activity, civic and charitable organizations, youth development, and other business and social benefits, and (2) needed capital improvements.

Provides that the study shall seek assistance from the department of community, trade, and economic development to quantify the contribution by fairs and fairgrounds in attracting tourism to the state. An advisory group, appointed by the board of the Washington state fairs association, will help guide the study.

Requires the department to submit the report to the office of financial management and the appropriate committees of the legislature no later than June 30, 2006.