

SHB 2049 - S AMD 384

By Senator Rockefeller

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds the challenge of
4 developing realistic, effective, and efficient solutions to the
5 conservation and management issues facing Puget Sound and Washington's
6 outer coast requires calling on all available sources of knowledge and
7 creative thinking available in the collective wisdom of Washington's
8 citizens. The legislature further finds that both Puget Sound and the
9 outer coast are dynamic and localized waterbodies with unique local
10 challenges and unique local solutions. As such, it is essential for
11 the future management of these ecosystems that citizens, through their
12 local government, have a voice and an opportunity to share their
13 dedication and interest in the well-being of their community's unique
14 marine waters, while providing a valuable contribution to the statewide
15 efforts aimed at restoring the outer coast and Puget Sound as a whole.

16 (2) The legislature further finds that federally led efforts to
17 establish marine resources committees have proven to be an exciting
18 vehicle for involving local citizens and community leaders in the
19 future discussions, decisions, and restoration commitments in the
20 waters most important to the community. The existing model of using a
21 community-based, nonregulatory organization to examine issues
22 particular to a community's corner of Puget Sound, applying for grants,
23 and thoroughly and fairly investigating available options and solutions
24 has proved to be a valuable asset to Puget Sound and its communities,
25 and is worthy of replication throughout the Puget Sound basin and the
26 outer coast.

27 (3) In this chapter, the legislature intends to establish a
28 structure on which interested local communities can harness the
29 dedication, creativity, and wisdom of their residents in the form of
30 marine resources committees. These committees are intended to

1 complement, and not compete with or undermine, any other governmental
2 efforts to restore and manage the Puget Sound. The legislature further
3 intends that the department of fish and wildlife should apply the
4 lessons learned from Puget Sound to work with county governments on the
5 outer coast to establish marine resources committees.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) The legislative authority for each
7 county that borders the marine waters of southern Puget Sound may
8 establish marine resources committees consistent with the procedures
9 outlined in section 3 of this act. Counties authorized to establish
10 marine resources committees in the southern Puget Sound are: King,
11 Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, and Mason counties.

12 (b) The legislative authority for each county bordering the marine
13 waters of the outer coast may develop a marine resources committee
14 consistent with the procedures outlined in section 3 of this act.
15 Counties authorized to establish marine resources committees on the
16 outer coast are: Pacific, Grays Harbor, and Wahkiakum counties.

17 (c) Jefferson and Clallam counties may establish a new marine
18 resources committee or a subcommittee of the county's existing marine
19 resources committee, consistent with the procedures outlined in section
20 3 of this act, specifically to address the marine ecosystems for the
21 outer coast or Puget Sound, where appropriate.

22 (2) The mission of a marine resources committee created under this
23 section is to address, utilizing sound science, the needs of the marine
24 ecosystem local to the county initiating the marine resources
25 committee.

26 (3) A marine resources committee created under this section should
27 review current data and resource conservation and management programs
28 and make prioritized recommendations for additional measures that might
29 be necessary to enhance protection of marine resources.

30 (4) The role of a marine resources committee in developing
31 recommendations includes, but is not limited to:

32 (a) Utilizing existing data and, to the extent necessary, helping
33 to gather new data on the health of local marine resources;

34 (b) Making scientifically based recommendations on local candidate
35 sites for marine protected areas;

36 (c) Working closely with local and state officials to help
37 implement recommendations of the marine resources committee;

1 (d) Promoting public outreach and education around marine resource
2 conservation and management issues; and

3 (e) Engaging in any other activities that the initiating county
4 deems appropriate.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) A marine resources committee, as
6 described in section 2 of this act, may be created by the legislative
7 authority of any county bordering the marine waters of the outer coast
8 or Puget Sound, in cooperation with all appropriate cities and special
9 districts within their boundaries. Adjacent county legislative
10 authorities shall coordinate their efforts whenever there is a mutual
11 interest in creating a marine resources committee.

12 (2) A county may delegate the management and oversight of a marine
13 resources committee created by the county under section 2 of this act
14 to a city, or cities, within its jurisdiction, if the city or cities
15 are located on the marine waters of the outer coast or southern Puget
16 Sound and are willing to accept the delegation.

17 (3) Participating county legislative authorities must select
18 members of the marine resources committee, ensuring balanced
19 representation from: Local government; scientific experts; affected
20 economic interests; affected recreational interests; and environmental
21 and conservation interests. Additionally, participating county
22 legislative authorities must invite tribal representatives to
23 participate in the marine resources committee. An initiating county
24 may delegate its appointment authority to a city or cities that have
25 received from the county the delegated responsibilities of managing and
26 overseeing the marine resources committee.

27 (4) County residents may petition the county legislative authority
28 to create a marine resources committee. Upon receipt of a petition,
29 the county legislative authority must respond in writing within sixty
30 days as to whether they will authorize the creation of a marine
31 resources committee as well as the reasons for their decision.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The Puget Sound action team, or its
33 successor organization, shall serve as the regional coordinating entity
34 for marine resources committees created in the southern Puget Sound and
35 the department of fish and wildlife shall serve as the regional

1 coordinating entity for marine resources committees created for the
2 outer coast.

3 (2) The regional coordinating entity shall serve as a resource to,
4 at a minimum:

5 (a) Coordinate and pool grant applications and other funding
6 requests for marine resources committees;

7 (b) Coordinate communications and information among marine
8 resources committees;

9 (c) Assist marine resources committees to measure themselves
10 against regional performance benchmarks;

11 (d) Assist marine resources committees with coordinating local
12 projects to complement regional priorities;

13 (e) Assist marine resources committees to interact with and
14 complement other marine resources committees, and other similar groups,
15 constituted under a different authority; and

16 (f) Coordinate with the Northwest Straits commission on issues
17 common to marine resources committees statewide.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Nothing in section 2 or 3 of this act is
19 intended to expand or limit the authority of local marine resources
20 committees established under the Northwest Straits marine conservation
21 initiative by federal act in San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Island,
22 Snohomish, Clallam, and Jefferson counties and existing as of the
23 effective date of this section.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Outer coast marine resources committees, in
25 conjunction with their regional coordinating entity, shall meet and
26 consult with key state, federal, local, and tribal governments, and
27 private interest groups to develop a collaborative process to address
28 ocean policy issues. This collaborative process should use
29 Washington's "Ocean Action Plan: Enhancing Management of Washington
30 State's Ocean and Outer Coasts" developed by the Washington ocean
31 policy work group as a guide to begin the work of developing and
32 coordinating state and local ocean policy and providing better
33 management of Washington's coastal areas.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute
35 a new chapter in Title 36 RCW."

SHB 2049 - S AMD

By Senator

1 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "committees;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "and adding a new chapter to Title 36
3 RCW."

EFFECT: Corrects the spelling of "marine resources committees" in order to be consistent with federal law.

--- END ---