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HOUSE BILL 1049

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Fromhold, Orcutt, Moeller, Wallace, Dunn and B. Sullivan

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1            AN ACT Relating to the Vancouver national historic reserve; adding  
2 new sections to chapter 27.34 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The three hundred sixty-six acre Vancouver  
5 national historic reserve was created by Congress through Public Law  
6 104-333: The "Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996"  
7 in recognition of the significant cultural, historic, and natural  
8 resources of the area. The historic reserve includes Fort Vancouver  
9 national historic site, Pearson airfield, Pearson air museum, officers  
10 row, Vancouver barracks, and a section of the Columbia river  
11 waterfront. The four legislatively designated partners in the reserve  
12 are the national park service, the United States army, the state of  
13 Washington, and the city of Vancouver.

14            The Vancouver national historic reserve trust, a 501(c)(3), was  
15 created in 1998 as the official nonprofit for the reserve. P.L. 104-  
16 333 required that the reserve be administered under a general  
17 management plan to be developed no later than three years after the  
18 enactment of the law. The management plan was adopted in February 2000  
19 with the state of Washington as one of the signatories.

1       The legislature finds that the state of Washington, as one of four  
2 federally designated partners in the Vancouver national historic  
3 reserve, should be actively engaged in the protection, preservation,  
4 interpretation, and rehabilitation of the historic reserve for the use  
5 and benefit of the people of the state. Southwest Washington is a  
6 traditionally underserved area of the state with regard to cultural and  
7 recreational opportunities. The Vancouver national historic reserve is  
8 a unique historic site that offers a variety of historic, cultural,  
9 natural, and recreational opportunities and currently serves almost one  
10 million visitors per year. From the Hudson's Bay company fort, the  
11 story of the early settlers and fur traders to Vancouver barracks, over  
12 one hundred fifty years of military history, to the story of pioneering  
13 aviation and the golden age of flight at Pearson field, the historic  
14 reserve is unique because of the layers of history visitors can  
15 experience in one location. In addition, the historic reserve offers  
16 acres of green space and waterfront in the midst of the large  
17 Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area.

18       The legislature has declared through RCW 27.34.220 that it is the  
19 public policy and in the public interest of the state to designate,  
20 preserve, protect, enhance, and perpetuate those structures, sites,  
21 districts, buildings, and objects that reflect outstanding elements of  
22 the state's historic, archaeological, architectural, or cultural  
23 heritage, for the inspiration and enrichment of the people of the  
24 state. The Vancouver national historic reserve is on both the state  
25 and federal registers as a historic district and encompasses some of  
26 the richest historic, archaeological, architectural, and cultural  
27 resources in the state.

28       It is the purpose of this act to:

29       (1) Confirm the role of the state of Washington in the development  
30 and management of the Vancouver national historic reserve;

31       (2) Identify the role of state agencies in the Vancouver national  
32 historic reserve; and

33       (3) Establish an account in the state treasury through the  
34 Washington state historical society for funds designated specifically  
35 for the Vancouver national historic reserve.

36       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature affirms that the state of  
37 Washington is partner in the Vancouver national historic reserve as

1 mandated under Public Law 104-333: The Omnibus Parks and Public Lands  
2 Management Act of 1996. As such, the state will take an active role in  
3 supporting the protection, preservation, interpretation, and  
4 rehabilitation of the Vancouver national historic reserve.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The legislature affirms that the Washington  
6 state historic society is the state's designated partner representative  
7 for the Vancouver national historic reserve. Accordingly, the  
8 Washington state historic society shall:

9 (1) Participate in the regularly scheduled coordination meetings of  
10 the Vancouver national historic reserve partners;

11 (2) Participate in the development of management, education, and  
12 interpretive plans and policies associated with the Vancouver national  
13 historic reserve;

14 (3) Partner with Washington State University and other agencies for  
15 purposes of managing the center for Columbia river history,  
16 headquartered on the Vancouver national historic reserve, and with the  
17 department for preservation and rehabilitation of the site; and

18 (4) Develop and submit to the office of financial management and  
19 the legislature operating and capital budget requests concurrent with  
20 the biennial cycle and oversee the management of all funds appropriated  
21 by the state for the Vancouver national historic reserve.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The Vancouver national historic reserve  
23 account is created in the state treasury. All receipts from  
24 appropriations and gifts directed to the account must be deposited into  
25 the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after  
26 appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only to  
27 finance the development and operation of the Vancouver national  
28 historic reserve.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each  
30 added to chapter 27.34 RCW.

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