
HOUSE BILL 1656

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Rolfes, Upthegrove, B. Sullivan, Appleton, Chase, Santos, Dickerson and Sells

Read first time 01/24/2007. Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Puget Sound.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a Puget Sound scientific research
2 account; adding a new section to chapter 90.71 RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Although research about the conditions in
6 Puget Sound have been studied during the past several decades, the
7 legislature finds that there is no coordinated, focused, comprehensive
8 Puget Sound science program capable of setting research priorities for
9 Puget Sound science. The legislature finds that environmental problems
10 in Puget Sound are complex and research is needed to provide
11 information that can guide protective and restorative actions, and to
12 explore and understand the impacts of a changing environment. The
13 legislature also finds that there is no predictable funding process for
14 Puget Sound research projects. The legislature declares that the state
15 needs a process to focus the scientific effort on the Puget Sound
16 ecosystem and to distribute research funds.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 90.71 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 (1) The action team or its successor agency shall:
2 (a) Identify gaps in science related to Puget Sound;
3 (b) Formulate a research plan to meet science gaps;
4 (c) Develop a competitive process for soliciting Puget Sound
5 research;
6 (d) Prioritize research projects; and
7 (e) Develop an appropriate peer review process for research
8 results.
9 (2) The Puget Sound scientific research account is created in the
10 state treasury. All gifts, grants, federal moneys, or appropriations
11 made to the account must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the
12 account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the
13 account may be used only for research programs and projects to protect
14 and restore Puget Sound.

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