

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049

60th Legislature
2007 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 14, 2007
Yeas 94 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2007
Yeas 48 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Select Committee on Puget Sound (originally sponsored by Representatives Rolfes, Strow, Appleton, Hunt, Springer, McDermott, VanDeWege, Seaquist, McCoy, Eickmeyer and Lantz)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to Puget Sound marine resource committees; and
2 adding a new chapter to Title 36 RCW.

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

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

17 (2) The legislature further finds that federally led efforts to
18 establish marine resources committees have proven to be an exciting
19 vehicle for involving local citizens and community leaders in the

1 future discussions, decisions, and restoration commitments in the
2 waters most important to the community. The existing model of using a
3 community-based, nonregulatory organization to examine issues
4 particular to a community's corner of Puget Sound, applying for grants,
5 and thoroughly and fairly investigating available options and solutions
6 has proved to be a valuable asset to Puget Sound and its communities,
7 and is worthy of replication throughout the Puget Sound basin and the
8 outer coast.

9 (3) In this chapter, the legislature intends to establish a
10 structure on which interested local communities can harness the
11 dedication, creativity, and wisdom of their residents in the form of
12 marine resources committees. These committees are intended to
13 complement, and not compete with or undermine, any other governmental
14 efforts to restore and manage the Puget Sound. The legislature further
15 intends that the department of fish and wildlife should apply the
16 lessons learned from Puget Sound to work with county governments on the
17 outer coast to establish marine resources committees.

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

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

29 (c) Jefferson and Clallam counties may establish a new marine
30 resources committee or a subcommittee of the county's existing marine
31 resources committee, consistent with the procedures outlined in section
32 3 of this act, specifically to address the marine ecosystems for the
33 outer coast or Puget Sound, where appropriate.

34 (2) The mission of a marine resources committee created under this
35 section is to address, utilizing sound science, the needs of the marine
36 ecosystem local to the county initiating the marine resources
37 committee.

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

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

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

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

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

13 (d) Promoting public outreach and education around marine resource
14 conservation and management issues; and

15 (e) Engaging in any other activities that the initiating county
16 deems appropriate.

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

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

29 (3) Participating county legislative authorities must select
30 members of the marine resources committee, ensuring balanced
31 representation from: Local government; scientific experts; affected
32 economic interests; affected recreational interests; and environmental
33 and conservation interests. Additionally, participating county
34 legislative authorities must invite tribal representatives to
35 participate in the marine resources committee. An initiating county
36 may delegate its appointment authority to a city or cities that have

1 received from the county the delegated responsibilities of managing and
2 overseeing the marine resources committee.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The Puget Sound action team, or its
9 successor organization, shall serve as the regional coordinating entity
10 for marine resources committees created in the southern Puget Sound and
11 the department of fish and wildlife shall serve as the regional
12 coordinating entity for marine resources committees created for the
13 outer coast.

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

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

18 (b) Coordinate communications and information among marine
19 resources committees;

20 (c) Assist marine resources committees to measure themselves
21 against regional performance benchmarks;

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

24 (e) Assist marine resources committees to interact with and
25 complement other marine resources committees, and other similar groups,
26 constituted under a different authority; and

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

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

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Outer coast marine resources committees, in
2 conjunction with their regional coordinating entity, shall meet and
3 consult with key state, federal, local, and tribal governments, and
4 private interest groups to develop a collaborative process to address
5 ocean policy issues. This collaborative process should use
6 Washington's "Ocean Action Plan: Enhancing Management of Washington
7 State's Ocean and Outer Coasts" developed by the Washington ocean
8 policy work group as a guide to begin the work of developing and
9 coordinating state and local ocean policy and providing better
10 management of Washington's coastal areas.

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

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