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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6230**

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**State of Washington**

**60th Legislature**

**2008 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen and Murray)

READ FIRST TIME 01/25/08.

1       AN ACT Relating to watchable wildlife; amending RCW 77.32.560,  
2 9.46.010, and 9.46.400; creating a new section; and providing an  
3 expiration date.

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

5       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the purchase of  
6 a watchable wildlife decal offers a valuable opportunity for  
7 individuals to voluntarily contribute to the enhancement of the  
8 habitat, infrastructure, trails, corridors, and communities that  
9 provide wildlife viewing opportunities in this state. In addition to  
10 improving wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, watchable  
11 wildlife programs also significantly contribute to the economic  
12 vitality of Washington's rural areas.

13       The legislature finds that Washington has made great strides to  
14 enhance watchable wildlife activities and tourism while also protecting  
15 the wildlife resources that attract the viewers. However, the  
16 legislature also finds that additional investments in the watchable  
17 wildlife program are needed and will further benefit Washington's  
18 wildlife and rural communities, and increase wildlife viewing and other

1 recreational opportunities in the state. Therefore, the legislature  
2 intends to use creative measures in an effort to increase the number of  
3 individuals who voluntarily purchase watchable wildlife decals.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.32.560 and 2003 c 317 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department may sell watchable wildlife decals. Proceeds  
7 from the sale of the decal must be deposited into the state wildlife  
8 (~~fund~~) account created in RCW 77.12.170 and must be dedicated to the  
9 support of the department's watchable wildlife activities. The  
10 department may also use proceeds from the sale of the decal for  
11 marketing the decal and for marketing watchable wildlife activities in  
12 the state.

13 (2) The term "watchable wildlife activities" includes but is not  
14 limited to: Initiating partnerships with communities to jointly  
15 develop watchable wildlife projects, building infrastructure to serve  
16 wildlife viewers, assisting and training communities in conducting  
17 wildlife watching events, developing destination wildlife viewing  
18 corridors and trails, tours, maps, brochures, and travel aides, and  
19 offering grants to assist rural communities in identifying key wildlife  
20 attractions and ways to protect and promote them.

21 (3) The commission must adopt by rule the cost of the watchable  
22 wildlife decal. A person may, at their discretion, contribute more  
23 than the cost as set by the commission by rule for the watchable  
24 wildlife decal in order to support watchable wildlife activities. A  
25 person who purchases a watchable wildlife decal must be issued one  
26 vehicle use permit free of charge.

27 (4)(a) Until December 1, 2010, the department, under the authority  
28 of the director, shall carry out a watchable wildlife raffle pilot  
29 project.

30 (b) The pilot project must consist of no fewer than three separate  
31 watchable wildlife raffles and associated tours. The department shall  
32 select raffle winners from the pool of watchable wildlife decal  
33 holders. The department shall provide raffle winners with a wildlife  
34 viewing tour on department owned or managed lands, and in doing so may  
35 work cooperatively with nongovernmental entities and individuals. The  
36 tour should provide participants with a desirable, high quality, and  
37 rare wildlife viewing experience. The department shall seek to

1 publicize the raffles and tours, including the tour destinations, to  
2 increase public awareness of the department's watchable wildlife  
3 program, watchable wildlife decals, and the pilot project.

4 (c) During the pilot project, the department is encouraged to use  
5 other creative measures in an effort to increase the number of  
6 individuals who voluntarily purchase watchable wildlife decals.

7 (d) The department shall provide the appropriate committees of the  
8 legislature with a brief summary of the pilot project and relevant  
9 policy recommendations, if any, by December 1, 2010.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 9.46.010 and 1996 c 101 s 2 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 The public policy of the state of Washington on gambling is to keep  
13 the criminal element out of gambling and to promote the social welfare  
14 of the people by limiting the nature and scope of gambling activities  
15 and by strict regulation and control.

16 It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature,  
17 recognizing the close relationship between professional gambling and  
18 organized crime, to restrain all persons from seeking profit from  
19 professional gambling activities in this state; to restrain all persons  
20 from patronizing such professional gambling activities; to safeguard  
21 the public against the evils induced by common gamblers and common  
22 gambling houses engaged in professional gambling; and at the same time,  
23 both to preserve the freedom of the press and to avoid restricting  
24 participation by individuals in activities and social pastimes, which  
25 activities and social pastimes are more for amusement rather than for  
26 profit, do not maliciously affect the public, and do not breach the  
27 peace.

28 The legislature further declares that the raising of funds for the  
29 promotion of bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations is in the  
30 public interest as is participation in such activities and social  
31 pastimes as are hereinafter in this chapter authorized.

32 The legislature further declares that the conducting of bingo,  
33 raffles, and amusement games and the operation of punchboards, pull-  
34 tabs, card games and other social pastimes, when conducted pursuant to  
35 the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted  
36 pursuant thereto, are hereby authorized, as are only such lotteries for

1 which no valuable consideration has been paid or agreed to be paid as  
2 hereinafter in this chapter provided.

3 The legislature further declares that fishing derbies shall not  
4 constitute any form of gambling and shall not be considered as a  
5 lottery, a raffle, or an amusement game and shall not be subject to the  
6 provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted  
7 hereunder.

8 The legislature further declares that raffles authorized by the  
9 fish and wildlife commission involving hunting big game animals or wild  
10 turkeys or as authorized under RCW 77.32.560 shall not be subject to  
11 the provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted  
12 hereunder, with the exception of this section and RCW 9.46.400.

13 All factors incident to the activities authorized in this chapter  
14 shall be closely controlled, and the provisions of this chapter shall  
15 be liberally construed to achieve such end.

16 **Sec. 4.** RCW 9.46.400 and 1996 c 101 s 3 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 Any raffle authorized by the fish and wildlife commission involving  
19 hunting big game animals or wild turkeys or under RCW 77.32.560 shall  
20 not be subject to any provisions of this chapter other than RCW  
21 9.46.010 and this section or to any rules or regulations of the  
22 gambling commission.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act expires January 1, 2011.

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