

**E2SSB 5560** - H AMD TO WAYS COMM AMD (H-3099.1/09) **729**  
By Representative Rolfes

ADOPTED 04/16/2009

1 On page 7, after line 24 of the amendment, insert the following:  
2 "(3) The legislature further finds that state agency leadership is  
3 needed in the development of preparation and adaptation actions for  
4 climate change to ensure the economic health, safety, and environmental  
5 well-being of the state and its citizens.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) The departments of ecology,  
7 agriculture, community, trade, and economic development, fish and  
8 wildlife, natural resources, and transportation shall develop an  
9 integrated climate change response strategy to better enable state and  
10 local agencies, public and private businesses, nongovernmental  
11 organizations, and individuals to prepare for, address, and adapt to  
12 the impacts of climate change. The integrated climate change response  
13 strategy should be developed, where feasible and consistent with the  
14 direction of the strategy, in collaboration with local government  
15 agencies with climate change preparation and adaptation plans.

16 (2) The department of ecology shall serve as a central  
17 clearinghouse for relevant scientific and technical information about  
18 the impacts of climate change on Washington's ecology, economy, and  
19 society, as well as serve as a central convener for the development of  
20 vital programs and necessary policies to help the state adapt to a  
21 rapidly changing climate.

22 (3) The department of ecology shall consult and collaborate with  
23 the departments of fish and wildlife, agriculture, community, trade,  
24 and economic development, natural resources, and transportation in  
25 developing an integrated climate change response strategy and plans of  
26 action to prepare for and adapt to climate change impacts.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** (1) The integrated climate change response  
28 strategy should address the impact of and adaptation to climate change,  
29 as well as the regional capacity to undertake actions, existing

1 ecosystem and resource management concerns, and health and economic  
2 risks. In addition, the departments of ecology, agriculture,  
3 community, trade, and economic development, fish and wildlife, natural  
4 resources, and transportation should include a range of scenarios for  
5 the purposes of planning in order to assess project vulnerability and,  
6 to the extent feasible, reduce expected risks and increase resiliency  
7 to the impacts of climate change.

8 (2)(a) By December 1, 2011, the department of ecology shall compile  
9 an initial climate change response strategy, including information and  
10 data from the departments of fish and wildlife, agriculture, community,  
11 trade, and economic development, natural resources, and transportation  
12 that: Summarizes the best known science on climate change impacts to  
13 Washington; assesses Washington's vulnerability to the identified  
14 climate change impacts; prioritizes solutions that can be implemented  
15 within and across state agencies; and identifies recommended funding  
16 mechanisms and technical and other essential resources for implementing  
17 solutions.

18 (b) The initial strategy must include:

19 (i) Efforts to identify priority planning areas for action, based  
20 on vulnerability and risk assessments;

21 (ii) Barriers challenging state and local governments to take  
22 action, such as laws, policies, regulations, rules, and procedures that  
23 require revision to adequately address adaptation to climate change;

24 (iii) Opportunities to integrate climate science and projected  
25 impacts into planning and decision making; and

26 (iv) Methods to increase public awareness of climate change, its  
27 projected impacts on the community, and to build support for meaningful  
28 adaptation policies and strategies.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The departments of ecology, agriculture,  
30 community, trade, and economic development, fish and wildlife, natural  
31 resources, and transportation may consult with qualified nonpartisan  
32 experts from the scientific community as needed to assist with  
33 developing an integrated climate change response strategy. The  
34 qualified nonpartisan experts from the scientific community may assist  
35 the department of ecology on the following components:

36 (1) Identifying the timing and extent of impacts from climate  
37 change;

1 (2) Assessing the effects of climate variability and change in the  
2 context of multiple interacting stressors or impacts;

3 (3) Developing forecasting models;

4 (4) Determining the resilience of the environment, natural systems,  
5 communities, and organizations to deal with potential or actual impacts  
6 of climate change and the vulnerability to which a natural or social  
7 system is susceptible to sustaining damage from climate change impacts;  
8 and

9 (5) Identifying other issues, as determined by the department of  
10 ecology, necessary to develop policies and actions for the integrated  
11 climate change response strategy.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** State agencies shall strive to incorporate  
13 adaptation plans of action as priority activities when planning or  
14 designing agency policies and programs. Agencies shall consider: The  
15 integrated climate change response strategy when designing, planning,  
16 and funding infrastructure projects; and incorporating natural resource  
17 adaptation actions and alternative energy sources when designing and  
18 planning infrastructure projects.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 10 through 13 of this act  
20 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW."

21 Renumber the remaining section consecutively and correct any  
22 internal references accordingly.

EFFECT: Requires the departments of ecology, agriculture,  
community, trade, and economic development, fish and wildlife, natural  
resources, and transportation to develop an integrated climate change  
response strategy. Outlines what the integrated climate change  
response strategy should address. Requires, by December 1, 2011, the  
department of ecology to compile an initial climate change response  
strategy. Allows the departments to consult with qualified nonpartisan  
experts from the scientific community as needed to assist with  
developing an integrated climate change response strategy. Outlines  
the various components of the integrated climate change response  
strategy the scientific community may assist the department of ecology  
on.

--- END ---