
HOUSE BILL 1997

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Finn, Rolfes, Smith, Dunshee, Upthegrove, Kretz, Chase, Dickerson, Liias, Kagi, Nelson, Kessler, Hunt, and Blake; by request of Puget Sound Partnership

Read first time 02/05/09. Referred to Committee on Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to Puget Sound scientific research; and amending
2 RCW 90.71.110 and 90.71.280.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.71.110 and 2007 c 345 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The Puget Sound scientific research account is created in the state
7 treasury. All gifts, grants, federal moneys, or appropriations made to
8 the account must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account
9 may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account
10 may be used only for research programs and projects selected pursuant
11 to (~~section 2 of this act~~) the process developed and overseen by the
12 Puget Sound science panel as provided in RCW 90.71.280(1)(c).

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 90.71.280 and 2007 c 341 s 10 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 (1) The panel shall:

16 (a) Assist the council, board, and executive director in carrying
17 out the obligations of the partnership, including preparing and
18 updating the action agenda;

1 (b) As provided in RCW 90.71.290, assist the partnership in
2 developing an ecosystem level strategic science program that:

3 (i) Addresses monitoring, modeling, data management, and research;
4 and

5 (ii) Identifies science gaps and recommends research priorities;

6 (c) Develop and provide oversight of a competitive peer-reviewed
7 process for soliciting, strategically prioritizing, and funding
8 research and modeling projects;

9 (d) Develop and implement an appropriate process for peer review of
10 monitoring, research, and modeling conducted as part of the strategic
11 science program;

12 (e) Provide input to the executive director in developing biennial
13 implementation strategies; and

14 ((+e)) (f) Offer an ecosystem-wide perspective on the science work
15 being conducted in Puget Sound and by the partnership.

16 (2) The panel should collaborate with other scientific groups and
17 consult other scientists in conducting its work. To the maximum extent
18 possible, the panel should seek to integrate the state-sponsored Puget
19 Sound science program with the Puget Sound science activities of
20 federal agencies, including working toward an integrated research
21 agenda and Puget Sound science work plan.

22 (3) By July 31, 2008, the panel shall identify environmental
23 indicators measuring the health of Puget Sound, and recommend
24 environmental benchmarks that need to be achieved to meet the goals of
25 the action agenda. The council shall confer with the panel on
26 incorporating the indicators and benchmarks into the action agenda.

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