Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 1875

Brief Description: Concerning water recreation facilities.

Sponsors: Representatives Taylor, DeBolt and McCune.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Prohibits the Department of Health from requiring water recreation facilities to change equipment that has been determined to be in compliance with manufacturer specifications and that has not been found by a local health jurisdiction to be out of compliance with State Board of Health rules.

Hearing Date: 2/16/11

Staff: Chris Blake (786-7392).

Background:

The State Board of Health (Board) is responsible for adopting rules regarding water recreation facilities. The rules must establish standards for safety, sanitation, and water quality, including design, operation, reporting injuries and illnesses, biological and chemical contamination, water quality monitoring, inspection, permitting, and enforcement. Local health jurisdictions may establish additional rules. The Department of Health (Department) is responsible for enforcing the Board's rules. The Department may enter into joint plans of responsibility with local health jurisdictions to enforce the Board's rules.

Summary of Bill:

In the event of the dissolution of a joint plan for the enforcement of water recreation facilities between the Department of Health (Department) and a local health jurisdiction, the Department shall assume enforcement responsibilities. Upon assuming enforcement responsibilities, the Department may not require that a facility change the installation of equipment if it: (1) was installed while the joint plan was in effect; (2) was installed in compliance with manufacturer

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specifications; (3) has not been found to be out of compliance by the local health jurisdiction; and (4) has not been subject to a recall or a change in specifications.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is

passed.