

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5561

As of February 10, 2011

Title: An act relating to designating the state rock.

Brief Description: Designating the state rock.

Sponsors: Senators Swecker and Shin.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections: 2/15/11.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, TRIBAL RELATIONS & ELECTIONS

Staff: Karen Epps (786-7424)

Background: The state of Washington confers the official designation on various flora, fauna, performing arts, minerals, and tartan. Some of these designations include: petrified wood, the official gem; the Walla Walla sweet onion, the official vegetable; the apple, the official fruit; the orca, the official marine mammal; the willow goldfinch, the official bird; and the steelhead trout, the official fish.

Prospectors discovered sandstone in Tenino in 1870. Tenino sandstone is included in the east wing of the Washington State Capitol, the original main branch of the Seattle Public Library, the Bailey Building in Seattle, and the Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, California. Tenino sandstone is a structural component of the Philadelphia Freedom Monument and represents Washington State in the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.

Summary of Bill: Tenino sandstone is designated as the official rock of the state of Washington.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.