
SENATE BILL 5777

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senator Chase

Read first time 02/11/11. Referred to Committee on Environment, Water & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to protecting water quality; adding new sections to
2 chapter 90.48 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.230 RCW;
3 creating a new section; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Outdoor car washing has the potential to
6 result in high loads of nutrients, metals, and hydrocarbons draining
7 directly into Washington waters as a result of the detergent and
8 chemical-rich water used to wash cars flowing into storm drains.

9 (2) The legislature finds that vehicle washing activities affect
10 local water quality and drinking water quality, and that the water from
11 car washes and the chemicals in many detergents are harmful to fish and
12 other aquatic life.

13 (3) The legislature intends to make Washington waters cleaner and
14 healthier by limiting the pollution from car washes from entering into
15 watersheds.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 90.48 RCW
17 to read as follows:

1 All charity car wash fund-raisers that do not use the facilities
2 and premises of a commercial car wash facility must adhere to the
3 following requirements:

4 (1) Use only biodegradable soaps;

5 (2) Wash all cars on gravel, grass, or other permeable surfaces;

6 (3) Use hoses with nozzles that automatically turn off when left
7 unattended;

8 (4)(a) Block off all storm drains surrounding the premises during
9 the charity car wash event; or

10 (b) Use a storm drain insert on all storm drains surrounding the
11 premises to catch car wash water during the charity car wash event; and

12 (5)(a) Pump water from car washes into a sanitary sewer drain; or

13 (b) If (a) of this subsection is not feasible, pump car wash water
14 onto grass or landscaping to provide filtration.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 90.48 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 A person found in violation of section 2 of this act must serve a
18 minimum of six hours of community service related to storm water
19 education.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 Annually, during the month of May, each public school shall conduct
23 or promote educational activities that provide instruction, awareness,
24 and understanding of the effects of storm water pollution in
25 Washington, including the effects of vehicle washing activities on
26 local water quality and drinking water quality.

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