

SB 5723 - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Transfers the powers and duties for conducting initial investigations of water quality issues arising from livestock operations from the department of ecology to the department of agriculture.

Requires a structure to be established, if an impact on water quality is found, to provide an orderly process to address these impacts through the use of technical assistance and programs available from conservation districts and associated federal agencies.

Authorizes the director of the department of agriculture to enter livestock operations for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to pollution of waters of the state.

Requires the department of agriculture, the department of ecology, and the conservation commission to approach the federal environmental protection agency to secure new funding or seek redirection of existing funds for the administration of the act.

Provides a contingent effective date.