

**HB 1245-S.E - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Modifies derelict and abandoned vessels provisions relating to the sale or transfer of the vessels.

Authorizes the department of natural resources to develop and administer a voluntary vessel turn-in program.

Requires the departments of enterprise services, natural resources, fish and wildlife, transportation, and ecology, the parks and recreation commission, institutions of higher education, local governments, and port districts, before transferring ownership of a vessel, to conduct a thorough review of the physical condition of the vessel, the vessel's operating capability, and any containers and other materials that are not fixed to the vessel.

Requires the department of natural resources to reevaluate certain criteria regarding the prioritization of vessel removals funded by the derelict vessel removal account.

Authorizes an officer or employee of an authorized public entity, or the department of ecology at the request of an authorized public entity, to board a vessel at any reasonable time for the purpose of: (1) Administering chapter 79.100 RCW (derelict vessels), including identifying ownership of a vessel, assessing the structural integrity of a vessel, and assessing whether a vessel meets certain criteria; and

(2) Mitigating a potential threat to health, safety, or the environment.

Requires the officer, employee, or department, before boarding a vessel, to apply for and obtain an administrative search warrant.