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HOUSE BILL 2446

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Rossetti, Orcutt, and Blake

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to the distinction among the roles of  
2 governmental employee participants and nongovernmental employee  
3 participants on work groups established by the director of the  
4 department of fish and wildlife; and amending RCW 77.04.120.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.04.120 and 2000 c 107 s 3 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The director shall investigate the habits, supply, and  
9 economic use of food fish and shellfish in state and offshore waters.

10 (2) The director shall make an annual report to the governor on  
11 the operation of the department and the statistics of the fishing  
12 industry.

13 (3) Subject to RCW 40.07.040, the director shall provide a  
14 comprehensive biennial report of all departmental operations to the  
15 chairs of the committees on natural resources of the senate and house  
16 of representatives, the senate ways and means committee, and the  
17 house of representatives appropriations committee, including one copy  
18 to the staff of each of the committees, to reflect the previous  
19 fiscal period. The format of the report shall be similar to reports  
20 issued by the department from 1964-1970 and the report shall include,  
21 but not be limited to, descriptions of all department activities

1 including: Revenues generated, program costs, capital expenditures,  
2 personnel, special projects, new and ongoing research, environmental  
3 controls, cooperative projects, intergovernmental agreements, and  
4 outlines of ongoing litigation, recent court decisions and orders on  
5 major issues with the potential for state liability. The report shall  
6 describe the status of the resource and its recreational, commercial,  
7 and tribal utilization. The report shall be made available to the  
8 public.

9 (4) In the director's execution of this section or any other duty  
10 or responsibility of the department, the director may appoint and  
11 utilize work groups, task forces, subcommittees, and other formally  
12 recognized and designated processes that are intended to collect,  
13 process, or disseminate expertise and opinions from other state  
14 agencies, other levels of government, Indian tribes, constituent  
15 groups, and unaffiliated citizens. Any process utilized by the  
16 director that includes the participation of nongovernmental  
17 employees, or a person acting in a nongovernmental role, must, unless  
18 otherwise specifically designated by an act of the legislature, be  
19 chaired by a nongovernmental participant and not by an employee of  
20 the department. Employees of the department must be limited to staff  
21 support and levels of participation less than that traditionally  
22 bestowed upon the chair.

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