
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2765

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By House Public Safety (originally sponsored by Representatives Kretz, Moscoso, Griffey, Hayes, and Holy)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to clarifying the limited authority of park
2 rangers; amending RCW 79A.05.160; and adding a new section to chapter
3 79A.05 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79A.05.160 and 2011 c 320 s 15 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) (~~The members of~~) Designated officers, employed by the
8 commission (~~and its designated employees~~), shall be vested with
9 police powers to enforce the laws of this state:

10 (a) Within the boundaries of any state park, including lands
11 owned, managed, or comanaged by the commission under lease or other
12 agreement;

13 (b) In winter recreation facilities established and administered
14 by the commission pursuant to RCW 79A.05.225(1)(a);

15 (c) On public roadways and public waterways bisecting the
16 contiguous borders of any state park, including lands owned, managed,
17 or comanaged by the commission under lease or other agreement;

18 (d) Upon the prior written consent of the sheriff or chief of
19 police in whose primary territorial jurisdiction the exercise of the
20 powers occur;

1 (e) In response to the request of a peace officer with
2 enforcement authority; and

3 (f) When the officer is in fresh pursuit for an offense committed
4 in the presence of the officer while the officer had police powers as
5 specified in (a) through (e) of this subsection.

6 (2) The director may, under the provisions of RCW 7.84.140, enter
7 into an agreement allowing (~~employees~~) officers of the department
8 of natural resources (~~and~~), the department of fish and wildlife,
9 and tribal law enforcement agencies on contiguous or comanaged
10 property, to enforce certain civil infractions created under this
11 title.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 79A.05
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 When physical injury to a person or substantial damage to
15 property occurs, or is about to occur, within the presence of an
16 officer of the commission designated with police powers pursuant to
17 RCW 79A.05.160, the designated officer is authorized to take such
18 action as is reasonably necessary to prevent physical injury to a
19 person or substantial damage to property or prevent further injury to
20 a person or further substantial damage to property. A designated
21 officer shall be immune from civil liability for damages arising out
22 of the action of the designated officer to prevent physical injury to
23 a person or substantial damage to property or prevent further injury
24 to a person or further substantial damage to property, unless it is
25 shown that the designated officer acted with gross negligence or bad
26 faith.

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