SENATE BILL 6450

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senator Pearson

Read first time 01/21/16. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to wildlife damage claim assessment costs; and
- 2 amending RCW 77.36.120.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.36.120 and 2009 c 333 s 57 are each amended to read as follows:
- 6 The department shall establish:
- 7 (1) The form of affidavits or proof required to accompany all 8 claims under this chapter;
- 9 (2) The process, time, and methods used to identify and assess 10 damage, including the anticipated timeline for the initiation and 11 conclusion of department action;
- 12 (3) How claims will be prioritized when available funds for 13 reimbursement are limited;
- 14 (4) Timelines after the discovery of damage by which an owner 15 must file a claim or notify the department;
- 16 (5) Protocols for an owner to follow if the owner wishes to 17 undertake activities that would complicate the determination of 18 damages, such as harvesting damaged crops;
- 19 (6) The process for determining damage assessments, including the 20 role and selection of professional damage assessors ((and)). The

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<u>department has</u> the responsibility ((for)) <u>to pay the full cost of</u> reimbursing third-party assessors for their services;

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- (7) Timelines for a claimant to accept, reject, or appeal a determination made by the department;
- (8) The identification of instances when an owner would be ineligible for compensation;
- (9) An appeals process for an owner eligible for compensation under RCW 77.36.100 who is denied a claim or feels the compensation is insufficient; and
 - (10) Other policies necessary for administering this chapter.

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