
**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee**

SB 6278

Brief Description: Concerning the use of seed certification fees.

Sponsors: Senators Warnick, Schoesler and Chase.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides that seed certification fees may be used for services involving breeder seed, foundation seed, registered seed, and certified seed.

Hearing Date: 2/20/18

Staff: Rebecca Lewis (786-7339).

Background:

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) administers the Washington State Seed Act (Seed Act), which provides uniformity and consistency in the packaging of agricultural, vegetable, and flower seeds. The stated purpose of the Seed Act is to facilitate the interstate movement of seeds, to protect consumers, and provide a dispute resolution process. The program tests seed samples submitted by seed growers and companies to determine compliance with purity and germination standards, and to certify seeds for domestic and international marketing, and provides for labeling of seeds in commerce. The WSDA has authority to set fees for activities performed under the program.

Summary of Bill:

Fees for seed certification may be used for services involving breeder seed, foundation seed, registered seed, and certified seed.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.