

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5523

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
State Government, February 17, 2017

Title: An act relating to removal of provisions that are no longer necessary for continued publication in the Revised Code of Washington.

Brief Description: Concerning the removal of provisions that are no longer necessary for continued publication in the Revised Code of Washington.

Sponsors: Senator Fortunato.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: State Government: 2/03/17, 2/17/17 [DP].

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decodifies, repeals, or amends a number of statutes.
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SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Miloscia, Chair; Zeiger, Vice Chair; Hunt, Ranking Minority Member; Kuderer and Pearson.

Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (786-7491)

Background: Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Generally. State laws are found in the RCW, which is codified and published by the Code Reviser under the supervision of the Statute Law Committee, a legislative agency.

Decodification. Decodified statutes are removed from publication in the RCW, but remain in effect. This is commonly used in situations where a statute lays out nonsubstantive language, such as an effective date, emergency clause, or severability clause, or the statute no longer has any effect going forward.

Repeal. Repealed statutes are invalid going forward and are removed from publication in the RCW and disappear altogether. This is commonly used in situations where the Legislature

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wants to eliminate an authority or directive, a specific statutory task has already been completed, or a specific statutory authority has not been used in a number of years.

Summary of Bill: A number of statutes are decodified, repealed, or amended, such as:

- decodification of intent sections, codification instructions, effective date clauses, severability clauses, rules requirements, repeal of laws, savings clauses, and transfers of functions;
- repeal of duplicate definitions, completed reporting requirements, workgroup, and accounts or programs that have been unused for a substantial period or were terminated; and
- amendments to statutes to correct statutory references, eliminate language referencing completed reports or expired moratoriums, account for repeal of other statutes, and remove language that is past the timeframe specified for applicability.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: None.

Persons Testifying: No one.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.