
HOUSE BILL 1726

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Koster, Stanford, Dent, Irwin, McDonald, Hayes, Short, and Pettigrew

Read first time 01/27/17. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to impacts from wildlife damage; adding a new
2 section to chapter 77.36 RCW; creating a new section; and providing
3 an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.36
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The department must reimburse a public agency for the expense
8 of an emergency response to a collision between a motor vehicle and
9 elk that occurs on a highway. The department must do so within thirty
10 days of receiving a written request and summary of expenses from the
11 responding agency.

12 (2) For the purposes of this section, "public agency" and
13 "expense of an emergency response" have the same meaning as defined
14 in RCW 38.52.010 and "highway" has the same meaning as defined in RCW
15 46.04.197.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of fish and wildlife
17 must, in cooperation with affected landowners and other relevant
18 stakeholders, conduct a review of the wildlife damage claim process,
19 including relevant statutes, program funding, and agency rules and
20 practices. At minimum, the review should identify potential program

1 efficiencies and methods to streamline the process for those affected
2 by damage caused by wildlife.

3 (2) The department of fish and wildlife must provide a summary of
4 the findings and any legislative or administrative recommendations to
5 the legislature and the fish and wildlife commission by November 1,
6 2017.

7 (3) This section expires December 31, 2017.

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