
HOUSE BILL 2552

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Lekanoff, DeBolt, Blake, Mead, Ramel, Shewmake, Ramos, Peterson, Thai, Fey, Tharinger, and Fitzgibbon

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a joint legislative salmon committee;
2 adding a new chapter to Title 44 RCW; and making appropriations.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A joint legislative salmon committee
5 is established consisting of the chairs and ranking minority members
6 of each committee from both the house of representatives and senate
7 with jurisdiction over salmon recovery issues and local government
8 operations, and the chairs and ranking members of the committees with
9 jurisdiction over the operating budget, capital budget, and
10 transportation budget. Committee chairs may designate the respective
11 committee vice chair to serve in the chair's place, and ranking
12 minority members may designate the respective assistant ranking
13 minority member to serve in the ranking minority member's place.

14 (2) The joint legislative salmon committee shall elect cochairs
15 from among its membership at the first meeting. The chair, or the
16 chair's designee, of the house of representatives standing committee
17 with jurisdiction over rural development, agriculture, and natural
18 resources issues shall convene the initial meeting of the joint
19 legislative salmon committee.

20 (3) The joint legislative salmon committee shall invite
21 participation from the department of fish and wildlife, the

1 department of natural resources, the department of ecology, and the
2 department of agriculture.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint legislative salmon committee
4 shall:

5 (a) Review and develop potential legislative actions to enhance
6 both salmon recovery efforts and effective coordination of statewide
7 salmon recovery policy; and

8 (b) Meet during the first week of each legislative session to
9 review potential legislative actions regarding salmon recovery,
10 including review of introduced bills and budget items.

11 (2) The joint legislative salmon committee shall provide an
12 annual report of its activities to the appropriate committees of the
13 legislature. The annual report must include, if applicable,
14 legislative recommendations. The annual report must be submitted no
15 later than one month after agency budget requests are submitted to
16 the office of financial management. The first report is due in 2020.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The office of program research and
18 senate committee services shall provide staff support to the joint
19 legislative salmon committee.

20 (2) Legislative members of the joint legislative salmon committee
21 must be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW
22 44.04.120.

23 (3) The expenses of the joint legislative salmon committee must
24 be paid jointly by the senate and the house of representatives. Joint
25 legislative salmon committee expenditures are subject to approval by
26 the senate facilities and operations committee and the house of
27 representatives executive rules committee, or their successor
28 committees.

29 (4) The joint legislative salmon committee may contract with
30 additional persons or organizations who have specific scientific and
31 technical expertise to inform legislative committees about the best
32 available science related to public policies that affect salmon, if
33 such expertise is necessary. The joint legislative salmon committee
34 may enter into such a contract only if an appropriation is
35 specifically provided for this purpose.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of seventy-five thousand dollars,
37 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the

1 fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, from the state general fund to the
2 house of representatives, and is provided solely for administrative,
3 research, and analytical activities required to carry out the joint
4 legislative salmon committee objectives in sections 1 through 3 of
5 this act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of seventy-five thousand dollars,
7 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the
8 fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, from the state general fund to the
9 senate, and is provided solely for administrative, research, and
10 analytical activities required to carry out the joint legislative
11 salmon committee objectives in sections 1 through 3 of this act.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act
13 constitute a new chapter in Title 44 RCW.

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