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**SENATE BILL 5684**

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**State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Haugen, Swecker, Ranker, Hatfield, Jarrett, and Kline

Read first time 01/28/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN    ACT    Relating   to   environmental   mitigation   in   highway  
2   construction; and adding a new section to chapter 47.01 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW  
5   to read as follows:

6            In the process of reviewing and selecting sites to meet highway  
7   construction environmental mitigation requirements under the national  
8   environmental policy act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq.) and chapter  
9   43.21C RCW, the department shall, to the greatest extent possible,  
10   consider using public land first.

11           If public lands are not available that meet the required  
12   environmental mitigation needs, the department may use other sites  
13   while making every effort to avoid any net loss of agricultural lands  
14   that have a designation of long-term commercial significance.

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