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**General Government Appropriations &  
Oversight Committee**

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**HB 1395**

**Brief Description:** Eliminating expiration dates for the derelict vessel and invasive species removal fee.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Dunshee, Chandler, Blake, Van De Wege, Tharinger, Rolfes, Hinkle, Fitzgibbon, Dickerson, Stanford and Reykdal; by request of Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Ecology.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Eliminates the expiration date for the derelict vessel and invasive species removal fee.

**Hearing Date:** 1/27/11

**Staff:** Courtney Barnes (786-7194) and Owen Rowe (786-7391).

**Background:**

Vessel Registration Fees.

Generally, no person may own or operate any vessel on the waters of this state unless the vessel has been registered. The current registration fee is \$10.50 per year, which is deposited in the State General Fund.

In addition to the registration fee, a vessel owner must pay other fees, including an annual derelict vessel and invasive species removal fee of \$5.00. The \$5.00 fee funds both derelict vessel and invasive species removal programs, and is distributed as follows:

- \$2.00 is deposited in the Derelict Vessel Removal Account, which is administered by the Department of Natural Resources;

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- \$1.50 is deposited in the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Account, which is administered by the Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- \$1.00 is deposited in the Freshwater Aquatic Algae Control Account, which is administered by the Department of Ecology; and
- \$0.50 is deposited in the Aquatic Invasive Species Enforcement Account, which is administered by the State Patrol.

The \$5.00 fee for derelict vessel and invasive species removal expires on June 30, 2012. On and after June 30, 2012, the derelict vessel and invasive species removal fee is \$2.00 and is deposited in the Derelict Vessel Removal Account.

**Summary of Bill:**

The expiration date for the \$5.00 derelict vessel and invasive species removal fee is eliminated. The provision reducing the \$5.00 fee to \$2.00 in 2012 is removed.

The term "freshwater" is added to clarify that the Freshwater Aquatic Algae Control Account may be used to provide technical assistance to applicants and the public about freshwater aquatic algae control.

Language is removed that authorized the Freshwater Aquatic Algae Control Account to be used for grants for sea lettuce research and removal for Puget Sound communities during the 2009-11 biennium.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

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