
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5032

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Pridemore and Zarelli)

READ FIRST TIME 01/22/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Vancouver national historic reserve; adding
2 new sections to chapter 27.34 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The three hundred sixty-six acre Vancouver
5 national historic reserve was created by Congress through Public Law
6 104-333: The "Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996"
7 in recognition of the significant cultural, historic, and natural
8 resources of the area. The historic reserve includes Fort Vancouver
9 national historic site, Pearson airfield, Pearson air museum, officers
10 row, Vancouver barracks, and a section of the Columbia river
11 waterfront. The four legislatively designated partners in the reserve
12 are the national park service, the United States army, the state of
13 Washington, and the city of Vancouver.

14 The Vancouver national historic reserve trust, a 501(c)(3), was
15 created in 1998 as the official nonprofit for the reserve. P.L. 104-
16 333 required that the reserve be administered under a general
17 management plan to be developed no later than three years after the
18 enactment of the law. The management plan was adopted in February 2000
19 with the state of Washington as one of the signatories.

1 The legislature finds that the state of Washington, as one of four
2 federally designated partners in the Vancouver national historic
3 reserve, should be actively engaged in the protection, preservation,
4 interpretation, and rehabilitation of the historic reserve for the use
5 and benefit of the people of the state. Southwest Washington is a
6 traditionally underserved area of the state with regard to cultural and
7 recreational opportunities. The Vancouver national historic reserve is
8 a unique historic site that offers a variety of historic, cultural,
9 natural, and recreational opportunities and currently serves almost one
10 million visitors per year. From the Hudson's Bay company fort, the
11 story of the early settlers and fur traders to Vancouver barracks, over
12 one hundred fifty years of military history, to the story of pioneering
13 aviation and the golden age of flight at Pearson field, the historic
14 reserve is unique because of the layers of history visitors can
15 experience in one location. In addition, the historic reserve offers
16 acres of green space and waterfront in the midst of the large
17 Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area.

18 The legislature has declared through RCW 27.34.200 that it is the
19 public policy and in the public interest of the state to designate,
20 preserve, protect, enhance, and perpetuate those structures, sites,
21 districts, buildings, and objects that reflect outstanding elements of
22 the state's historic, archaeological, architectural, or cultural
23 heritage, for the inspiration and enrichment of the people of the
24 state. The Vancouver national historic reserve is on both the state
25 and federal registers as a historic district and encompasses some of
26 the richest historic, archaeological, architectural, and cultural
27 resources in the state.

28 It is the purpose of this act to:

29 (1) Confirm the role of the state of Washington in the development
30 and management of the Vancouver national historic reserve;

31 (2) Identify the role of state agencies in the Vancouver national
32 historic reserve; and

33 (3) Establish an account in the state treasury through the
34 Washington state historical society for funds designated specifically
35 for the Vancouver national historic reserve.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature affirms that the state of
37 Washington is partner in the Vancouver national historic reserve as

1 mandated under Public Law 104-333: The Omnibus Parks and Public Lands
2 Management Act of 1996. As such, the state will take an active role in
3 supporting the protection, preservation, interpretation, and
4 rehabilitation of the Vancouver national historic reserve.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The legislature affirms that the Washington
6 state historical society is the state's designated partner
7 representative for the Vancouver national historic reserve.
8 Accordingly, the Washington state historical society shall:

9 (1) Participate in the regularly scheduled coordination meetings of
10 the Vancouver national historic reserve partners;

11 (2) Participate in the development of management, education, and
12 interpretive plans and policies associated with the Vancouver national
13 historic reserve;

14 (3) Partner with Washington State University and other agencies for
15 purposes of managing the center for Columbia river history,
16 headquartered on the Vancouver national historic reserve, and with the
17 department for preservation and rehabilitation of the site; and

18 (4) Develop and submit to the office of financial management and
19 the legislature operating and capital budget requests concurrent with
20 the biennial cycle and oversee the management of all funds appropriated
21 by the state for the Vancouver national historic reserve.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act are each added
23 to chapter 27.34 RCW.

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