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SENATE BILL 5793

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State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senator Morton

Read first time 02/01/2007. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the composition of the fish and wildlife  
2 commission; and amending RCW 77.04.030 and 77.04.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.04.030 and 2001 c 155 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) The fish and wildlife commission consists of nine registered  
7 voters of the state. In January of each odd-numbered year, the  
8 governor shall appoint with the advice and consent of the senate three  
9 registered voters to the commission to serve for terms of six years  
10 from that January or until their successors are appointed and  
11 qualified. If a vacancy occurs on the commission prior to the  
12 expiration of a term, the governor shall appoint a registered voter  
13 within sixty days to complete the term. ~~((Three members shall be  
14 residents of that portion of the state lying east of the summit of the  
15 Cascade mountains, and three shall be residents of that portion of the  
16 state lying west of the summit of the Cascade mountains. Three  
17 additional members shall be appointed at large. No two members may be  
18 residents of the same county.))~~

1       (2) At least one member must reside within the boundaries of each  
2 of the six administrative regions recognized by the department on the  
3 effective date of this section. No more than two members may reside in  
4 any single administrative region recognized by the department on the  
5 effective date of this section. No two members may be residents of the  
6 same county. With each appointment after the effective date of this  
7 section, the governor must incrementally bring commission membership  
8 into conformance with this subsection.

9       (3) If a member is not confirmed by the senate within one year of  
10 that member's appointment, that member's position is considered vacated  
11 and the governor must appoint a registered voter within sixty days to  
12 complete the term.

13       (4) The legal office of the commission is at the administrative  
14 office of the department in Olympia.

15       **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.04.040 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 2 s 3 are each amended  
16 to read as follows:

17       (1) Persons eligible for appointment as members of the commission  
18 shall have general knowledge of the habits and distribution of fish and  
19 wildlife and shall not hold another state, county, or municipal  
20 elective or appointive office. ((In making these appointments, the  
21 governor shall seek to maintain a balance reflecting all aspects of  
22 fish and wildlife, including representation recommended by organized  
23 groups representing sportfishers, commercial fishers, hunters, private  
24 landowners, and environmentalists.))

25       (2) Membership on the commission shall be composed of: Two members  
26 recommended by statewide hunting organizations; two members recommended  
27 by statewide sportfishing associations; one member recommended by  
28 statewide commercial fishing organizations; three members recommended  
29 by statewide agricultural organizations; and one member recommended by  
30 statewide conservation organizations. With each appointment after the  
31 effective date of this section, the governor must incrementally bring  
32 commission membership into conformance with this subsection.

33       (3) Persons eligible for appointment as fish and wildlife  
34 commissioners shall comply with the provisions of chapters 42.52 and  
35 42.17 RCW.

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