



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE

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May 17, 2007

ITEM #15: Boating Activities Program

Prepared & Presented By: Jim Fox

Approved by the Director: 

Proposed Action: Adopt Resolution 2007-12

Summary:

SHB1651 (C311, L07), signed by the Governor on May 3, establishes the Boating Activities Account and Boating Activities Program, to be administered by IAC. The Operating Budget appropriates \$2 M to the account. The bill requires IAC to conduct an assessment of boater needs and report to the Legislature by December 1, 2007. After deduction of IAC administrative expenses and study costs, 80 percent of the remaining funds go to the State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) for law enforcement and boating safety and education. The remaining 20 percent goes to IAC for a grant program for boating facilities and other boating needs.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the IAC adopt Resolution 2007-12, authorizing the Director to enter into a contract with State Parks for \$1,452,000 to be used for boating law enforcement, safety, and education programs.

Background:

In 2006, the Boating Issues Task Force, working with the Northwest Marine Trades Association, developed a recommendation to conduct a study to ascertain needs for recreational boating facilities and other programs and provide funding for new facilities and programs. At the same time, State Parks, working with the Chair of the Capital Budget Committee, was looking at needs for improved marine law enforcement and boater safety education. The two groups came together to develop HB1651, which was introduced and passed in the 2007 session.



As originally introduced, HB1651 would have transferred the excise tax paid by boat owners to the new Boating Activities Account. Currently the tax, about \$35M a biennium, goes to the general fund. SHB1651 did not include this provision, but the Boating Activities Account did receive a \$2 M general fund appropriation in the Operating Budget.

Analysis:

In the fiscal note for SHB1651, IAC estimated the cost of the boating needs assessment to be \$125,000. The IAC administrative costs to oversee selection of a consultant and management of the contract and development of the resulting study are estimated to be \$60,000. The remaining \$1,815,000 is to be divided as follows: 80 percent (\$1,452,000) to State Parks to be used for boating law enforcement, safety, and education programs and 20 percent (\$363,000) retained by IAC for a grant program for boating facilities and other boating needs. The bill specifies that IAC consult with an advisory committee prior to distribution of the grant funds.

Next Steps:

In order to get started on the needs assessment, which is due December 1 of this year, IAC consulted with members of the Boating Issues Task Force on composition of an *ad hoc* advisory committee to assist with developing a scope for the study, drafting an RFP, selecting a contractor, and reviewing the resulting report. The *ad hoc* committee will also make recommendations on composition of a permanent committee to advise IAC on the new grant program. At its first meeting on May 17, the needs assessment advisory committee heard presentations from IAC, State Parks, WDFW, DNR, and Northwest Marine Trades Association regarding existing studies and identified areas needing additional research. IAC staff will draft an RFP for review by the committee, with the intention of releasing it the RFP June.

Attachments:

- SHB1651
- Resolution 2007-12

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1651

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by
Representatives Fromhold, Alexander, B. Sullivan, Walsh and Simpson)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to boating activities; and adding new sections to
2 chapter 79A.60 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 79A.60 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The boating activities account is created in the state treasury.
7 Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation.
8 Expenditures from the account may be used only as authorized under
9 sections 2 and 3 of this act.

10 Grants, gifts, or other financial assistance received by the
11 interagency committee for outdoor recreation from state and nonstate
12 sources for purposes of boating activities may be deposited into the
13 account.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.60 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) The boating activities program is created in the interagency
17 committee for outdoor recreation.

1 (2) The interagency committee for outdoor recreation shall
2 distribute moneys appropriated from the boating activities account
3 created in section 1 of this act as follows, or as otherwise
4 appropriated by the legislature, after deduction for the committee's
5 expenses in administering the boating activities grant program and for
6 related studies:

7 (a) To the commission for boater safety, boater education, boating-
8 related law enforcement activities, activities included in RCW
9 88.02.040, related administrative expenses, and boating-related
10 environmental programs, such as pumpout stations, to enhance clean
11 waters for boating;

12 (b) For grants to state agencies, counties, municipalities, port
13 districts, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes
14 to improve boating access to water and marine parks, enhance the boater
15 experience, boater safety, boater education, and boating-related law
16 enforcement activities, and to provide funds for boating-related
17 environmental programs, such as pumpout stations, to enhance clean
18 waters for boating; and

19 (c) If the amount available for distribution from the boating
20 activities account is equal to or less than two million five hundred
21 thousand dollars per fiscal year, then eighty percent of the amount
22 available must be distributed to the commission for the purposes of (a)
23 of this subsection and twenty percent for grants in (b) of this
24 subsection. Amounts available for distribution in excess of two
25 million five hundred thousand dollars per fiscal year shall be
26 distributed by the committee for purposes of (a) and (b) of this
27 subsection.

28 (3) The interagency committee for outdoor recreation shall
29 establish an application process for boating activities grants.

30 (4) Agencies receiving grants for capital purposes from the boating
31 activities account shall consider the possibility of contracting with
32 the commission, the department of natural resources, or other federal,
33 state, and local agencies to employ the youth development and
34 conservation corps or other youth crews in completing the project.

35 (5) To solicit input on the boating activities grant application
36 process, criteria for grant awards, and use of grant moneys, and to
37 determine the interests of the boating community, the interagency
38 committee for outdoor recreation shall solicit input from a boating

1 activities advisory committee. The interagency committee for outdoor
2 recreation may utilize a currently established boating issues committee
3 that has similar responsibility for input on recreational boating-
4 related funding issues. Members of the boating activities advisory
5 committee are not eligible for compensation but may be reimbursed for
6 travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

7 (6) The interagency committee for outdoor recreation may adopt
8 rules to implement this section.

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 79A.60 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) By December 1, 2007, the interagency committee for outdoor
12 recreation shall complete an initial study of boater needs and make
13 recommendations to the appropriate committees of the legislature on the
14 initial amount of funding that should be provided to the commission for
15 boating-related law enforcement purposes under section 2(2)(a) of this
16 act.

17 (2) The interagency committee for outdoor recreation shall
18 periodically update its study of boater needs as necessary and shall
19 make recommendations to the governor and the appropriate committees of
20 the legislature concerning funding allocations to state parks and other
21 grant applicants.

Passed by the House April 17, 2007.

Passed by the Senate April 10, 2007.

Approved by the Governor May 3, 2007.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 7, 2007.

**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION
RESOLUTION #2007-12**

**Transfer of Boating Activities Account Funds to the
State Parks and Recreation Commission**

WHEREAS, SHB1651 (C311 L07) establishes the Boating Activities Account and Boating Activities Program, to be administered by IAC; and

WHEREAS, the 2007-09 Operating Budget, SHB1128 (C522 L07), appropriates \$2,000,000 to the Boating Activities Account; and

WHEREAS, after IAC administrative expenses (\$60,000) and costs of a boater needs assessment (\$125,000) are deducted, SHB1651 directs 80 percent of the remaining funds be transferred to the State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks); and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that IAC's Director is authorized to enter into an agreement with State Parks for the amount of \$1,452,000 from the Boating Activities Account for boating law enforcement, safety, and education programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that IAC staff is directed to proceed with developing and implementing the boater needs assessment, establishing of a permanent advisory committee, and developing recommendations for a Boating Activities Grant Program to be presented to the IAC for adoption no later than its November, 2007 meeting.

Resolution Moved by: _____

Resolution Seconded by: _____

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: _____