

I approve of the remainder of this bill."

Veto  
Message

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CHAPTER 286

[Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 584]

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1971

AN ACT Relating to shoreline areas; adding new sections to Title 90 RCW as a new chapter therein; defining crimes; prescribing penalties; making an appropriation; authorizing an alternative to Initiative 43; and declaring an effective date and an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Shoreline Management Act of 1971".

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The legislature finds that the shorelines of the state are among the most valuable and fragile of its natural resources and that there is great concern throughout the state relating to their utilization, protection, restoration, and preservation. In addition it finds that ever increasing pressures of additional uses are being placed on the shorelines necessitating increased coordination in the management and development of the shorelines of the state. The legislature further finds that much of the shorelines of the state and the uplands adjacent thereto are in private ownership; that unrestricted construction on the privately owned or publicly owned shorelines of the state is not in the best public interest; and therefore, coordinated planning is necessary in order to protect the public interest associated with the shorelines of the state while, at the same time, recognizing and protecting private property rights consistent with the public interest. There is, therefore, a clear and urgent demand for a planned, rational, and concerted effort, jointly performed by federal, state, and local governments, to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines.

It is the policy of the state to provide for the management of the shorelines of the state by planning for and fostering all reasonable and appropriate uses. This policy is designed to insure the development of these shorelines in a manner which, while allowing for limited reduction of rights of the public in the navigable waters, will promote and enhance the public interest. This policy contemplates protecting against adverse effects to the public health, the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state and their aquatic life, while protecting generally public rights of navigation and corollary rights incidental thereto.

The legislature declares that the interest of all of the people shall be paramount in the management of shorelines of state-wide significance. The department, in adopting guidelines for shorelines of state-wide significance, and local government, in developing master programs for shorelines of state-wide significance, shall give preference to uses in the following order of preference which:

- (1) Recognize and protect the state-wide interest over local interest;
- (2) Preserve the natural character of the shoreline;
- (3) Result in long term over short term benefit;
- (4) Protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline;
- (5) Increase public access to publicly owned areas of the shorelines;
- (6) Increase recreational opportunities for the public in the shoreline;
- (7) Provide for any other element as defined in section 11 \*[10] of this 1971 act deemed appropriate or necessary.

In the implementation of this policy the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines of the state shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible consistent with the overall best interest of the state and the people generally. To this end uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment, or are unique to or dependent upon use of the state's shoreline. Alterations of the natural condition of the shorelines of the state, in those limited instances when authorized, shall be given priority for single family residences, ports, shoreline recreational uses including but not limited to parks, marinas, piers, and other improvements facilitating public access to shorelines of the state, industrial and commercial developments which are particularly dependent on their location on or use of the shorelines of the state and other development that will provide an opportunity for substantial numbers of the people to enjoy the shorelines of the state.

Permitted uses in the shorelines of the state shall be designed and conducted in a manner to minimize, insofar as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline area and any interference with the public's use of the water.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions and concepts apply:

- (1) Administration:
  - (a) "Department" means the department of ecology;
  - (b) "Director" means the director of the department of

ecology;

(c) "Local government" means any county, incorporated city, or town which contains within its boundaries any lands or waters subject

V to this chapter: PROVIDED, That lands under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter and as to such lands the department of natural resources shall have the same powers, duties, and obligations as local government has as to other lands covered by the provisions of this chapter:

(d) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, organization, cooperative, public or municipal corporation, or agency of the state or local governmental unit however designated;

(e) "Hearing board" means the shoreline hearings board established by this chapter.

(2) Geographical:

(a) "Extreme low tide" means the lowest line on the land reached by a receding tide;

(b) "Ordinary high water mark" on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on the effective date of this chapter or as it may naturally change thereafter: PROVIDED, That in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining saltwater shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water;

(c) "Shorelines of the state" are the total of all "shorelines" and "shorelines of state-wide significance" within the state;

(d) "Shorelines" means all of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated wetlands, together with the lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of state-wide significance; (ii) shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean annual flow is twenty cubic feet per second or less and the wetlands associated with such upstream segments; and (iii) shorelines on lakes less than twenty acres in size and wetlands associated with such small lakes;

(e) "Shorelines of state-wide significance" means the following shorelines of the state:

(i) The area between the ordinary high water mark and the western boundary of the state from Cape Disappointment on the south

to Cape Flattery on the north, including harbors, bays, estuaries, and inlets;

(ii) Those areas of Puget Sound and adjacent salt waters and the Strait of Juan de Fuca between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme low tide as follows:

(A) Nisqually Delta -- from DeWolf Bight to Tatsolo Point,

(B) Birch Bay -- from Point Whitehorn to Birch Point,

(C) Hood Canal -- from Tala Point to Foulweather Bluff,

(D) Skagit Bay and adjacent area -- from Brown Point to Yokeko Point, and

(E) Padilla Bay -- from March Point to William Point;

(iii) Those areas of Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca and adjacent salt waters north to the Canadian line and lying seaward from the line of extreme low tide;

(iv) Those lakes, whether natural, artificial or a combination thereof, with a surface acreage of one thousand acres or more measured at the ordinary high water mark;

(v) Those natural rivers or segments thereof as follows:

(A) Any west of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a point where the mean annual flow is measured at one thousand cubic feet per second or more,

(B) Any east of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a point where the annual flow is measured at two hundred cubic feet per second or more, or those portions of rivers east of the crest of the Cascade range downstream from the first three hundred square miles of drainage area, whichever is longer;

(vi) Those wetlands associated with (i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of this subsection (2) (e);

(f) "Wetlands" or "wetland areas" means those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; and all marshes, bogs, swamps, floodways, river deltas, and flood plains associated with the streams, lakes and tidal waters which are subject to the provisions of this act; the same to be designated as to location by the department of ecology.

(3) Procedural terms:

(a) "Guidelines" means those standards adopted to implement the policy of this chapter for regulation of use of the shorelines of the state prior to adoption of master programs. Such standards shall also provide criteria to local governments and the department in developing master programs;

(b) "Master program" shall mean the comprehensive use plan for a described area, and the use regulations together with maps, diagrams, charts or other descriptive material and text, a statement of desired goals and standards developed in accordance with the

policies enunciated in section 2 of this 1971 act;

(c) "State master program" is the cumulative total of all master programs approved or adopted by the department of ecology;

(d) "Development" means a use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling; removal of any sand, gravel or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any state of water level;

(e) "Substantial development" shall mean any development of which the total cost or fair market value exceeds one thousand dollars, or any development which materially interferes with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state; except that the following shall not be considered substantial developments for the purpose of this chapter:

(i) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments, including damage by accident, fire or elements;

(ii) Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to single family residences;

(iii) Emergency construction necessary to protect property from damage by the elements;

(iv) Construction of a barn or similar agricultural structure on wetlands;

(v) Construction or modification of navigational aids such as channel markers and anchor buoys;

(vi) Construction on wetlands by an owner, lessee or contract purchaser of a single family residence for his own use or for the use of his family, which residence does not exceed a height of thirty-five feet above average grade level and which meets all requirements of the state agency or local government having jurisdiction thereof, other than requirements imposed pursuant to this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The shoreline management program of this chapter shall apply to the shorelines of the state as defined in this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This chapter establishes a cooperative program of shoreline management between local government and the state. Local government shall have the primary responsibility for initiating and administering the regulatory program of this chapter. The department shall act primarily in a supportive and review capacity with primary emphasis on insuring compliance with the policy and provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1) Within one hundred twenty days from the effective date of this chapter, the department shall submit to

all local governments proposed guidelines consistent with section 2 of this 1971 act for:

(a) Development of master programs for regulation of the uses of shorelines; and

(b) Development of master programs for regulation of the uses of shorelines of state-wide significance.

(2) Within sixty days from receipt of such proposed guidelines, local governments shall submit to the department in writing proposed changes, if any, and comments upon the proposed guidelines.

(3) Thereafter and within one hundred twenty days from the submission of such proposed guidelines to local governments, the department, after review and consideration of the comments and suggestions submitted to it, shall resubmit final proposed guidelines.

(4) Within sixty days thereafter public hearings shall be held by the department in Olympia and Spokane, at which interested public and private parties shall have the opportunity to present statements and views on the proposed guidelines. Notice of such hearings shall be published at least once in each of the three weeks immediately preceding the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in each county of the state.

(5) Within ninety days following such public hearings, the department at a public hearing to be held in Olympia shall adopt guidelines.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. (1) Local governments are directed with regard to shorelines of the state in their various jurisdictions to submit to the director of the department, within six months from the effective date of this chapter, letters stating that they propose to complete an inventory and develop master programs for these shorelines as provided for in section 8 of this 1971 act.

(2) If any local government fails to submit a letter as provided in subsection (1) of this section, or fails to adopt a master program for the shorelines of the state within its jurisdiction in accordance with the time schedule provided in this chapter, the department shall carry out the requirements of section 8 of this 1971 act and adopt a master program for the shorelines of the state within the jurisdiction of the local government.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. Local governments are directed with regard to shorelines of the state within their various jurisdictions as follows:

(1) To complete within eighteen months after the effective date of this chapter, a comprehensive inventory of such shorelines. Such inventory shall include but not be limited to the general ownership patterns of the lands located therein in terms of public

and private ownership, a survey of the general natural characteristics thereof, present uses conducted therein and initial projected uses thereof;

(2) To develop, within eighteen months after the adoption of guidelines as provided in section 6 of this 1971 act, a master program for regulation of uses of the shorelines of the state consistent with the guidelines adopted.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. Master programs or segments thereof shall become effective when adopted or approved by the department as appropriate. Within the time period provided in section 8 of this 1971 act, each local government shall have submitted a master program, either totally or by segments, for all shorelines of the state within its jurisdiction to the department for review and approval.

(1) As to those segments of the master program relating to shorelines, they shall be approved by the department unless it determines that the submitted segments are not consistent with the policy of section 2 of this 1971 act and the applicable guidelines. If approval is denied, the department shall state within ninety days from the date of submission in detail the precise facts upon which that decision is based, and shall submit to the local government suggested modifications to the program to make it consistent with said policy and guidelines. The local government shall have ninety days after it receives recommendations from the department to make modifications designed to eliminate the inconsistencies and to resubmit the program to the department for approval. Any resubmitted program shall take effect when and in such form and content as is approved by the department.

(2) As to those segments of the master program relating to shorelines of state-wide significance the department shall have full authority following review and evaluation of the submission by local government to develop and adopt an alternative to the local government's proposal if in the department's opinion the program submitted does not provide the optimum implementation of the policy of this chapter to satisfy the state-wide interest. If the submission by local government is not approved, the department shall suggest modifications to the local government within ninety days from receipt of the submission. The local government shall have ninety days after it receives said modifications to consider the same and resubmit a master program to the department. Thereafter, the department shall adopt the resubmitted program or, if the department determines that said program does not provide for optimum implementation, it may develop and adopt an alternative as hereinbefore provided.

(3) In the event a local government has not complied with the

requirements of section 7 of this 1971 act it may thereafter upon written notice to the department elect to adopt a master program for the shorelines within its jurisdiction, in which event it shall comply with the provisions established by this chapter for the adoption of a master program for such shorelines.

Upon approval of such master program by the department it shall supersede such master program as may have been adopted by the department for such shorelines.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. (1) The master programs provided for in this chapter, when adopted and approved by the department, as appropriate, shall constitute use regulations for the various shorelines of the state. In preparing the master programs, and any amendments thereto, the department and local governments shall to the extent feasible:

(a) Utilize a systematic interdisciplinary approach which will insure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts;

(b) Consult with and obtain the comments of any federal, state, regional, or local agency having any special expertise with respect to any environmental impact;

(c) Consider all plans, studies, surveys, inventories, and systems of classification made or being made by federal, state, regional, or local agencies, by private individuals, or by organizations dealing with pertinent shorelines of the state;

(d) Conduct or support such further research, studies, surveys, and interviews as are deemed necessary;

(e) Utilize all available information regarding hydrology, geography, topography, ecology, economics, and other pertinent data;

(f) Employ, when feasible, all appropriate, modern scientific data processing and computer techniques to store, index, analyze, and manage the information gathered.

(2) The master programs shall include, when appropriate, the following:

(a) An economic development element for the location and design of industries, transportation facilities, port facilities, tourist facilities, commerce and other developments that are particularly dependent on their location on or use of the shorelines of the state;

(b) A public access element making provision for public access to publicly owned areas;

(c) A recreational element for the preservation and enlargement of recreational opportunities, including but not limited to parks, tidelands, beaches, and recreational areas;

(d) A circulation element consisting of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares,



transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the shoreline use element;

(e) A use element which considers the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the use on shorelines and adjacent land areas for housing, business, industry, transportation, agriculture, natural resources, recreation, education, public buildings and grounds, and other categories of public and private uses of the land;

(f) A conservation element for the preservation of natural resources, including but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection;

(g) An historic, cultural, scientific, and educational element for the protection and restoration of buildings, sites, and areas having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational values; and

(h) Any other element deemed appropriate or necessary to effectuate the policy of this act.

(3) The master programs shall include such map or maps, descriptive text, diagrams and charts, or other descriptive material as are necessary to provide for ease of understanding.

(4) Master programs will reflect that state-owned shorelines of the state are particularly adapted to providing wilderness beaches, ecological study areas, and other recreational activities for the public and will give appropriate special consideration to same.

(5) Each master program shall contain provisions to allow for the varying of the application of use regulations of the program, including provisions for permits for conditional uses and variances, to insure that strict implementation of a program will not create unnecessary hardships or thwart the policy enumerated in section 2 of this Chapter. Any such varying shall be allowed only if extraordinary circumstances are shown and the public interest suffers no substantial detrimental effect. The concept of this subsection shall be incorporated in the rules adopted by the department relating to the establishment of a permit system as provided in section 14(3) of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. (1) Whenever it shall appear to the director that a master program should be developed for a region of the shorelines of the state which includes lands and waters located in two or more adjacent local government jurisdictions, the director shall designate such region and notify the appropriate units of local government thereof. It shall be the duty of the notified units to develop cooperatively an inventory and master program in accordance with and within the time provided in section 8 of this 1971 act.

(2) At the discretion of the department, a local government master program may be adopted in segments applicable to particular

areas so that immediate attention may be given to those areas of the shorelines of the state in most need of a use regulation.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. All rules and regulations, master programs, designations and guidelines, shall be adopted or approved in accordance with the provisions of RCW 34.04.025 insofar as such provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. In addition:

(1) Prior to the approval or adoption by the department of a master program, or portion thereof, at least one public hearing shall be held in each county affected by a program or portion thereof for the purpose of obtaining the views and comments of the public. Notice of each such hearing shall be published at least once in each of the three weeks immediately preceding the hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which the hearing is to be held.

(2) All guidelines, regulations, designations or master programs adopted or approved under this chapter shall be available for public inspection at the office of the department or the appropriate county auditor and city clerk. The terms "adopt" and "approve" for purposes of this section, shall include modifications and rescission of guidelines.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. To insure that all persons and entities having an interest in the guidelines and master programs developed under this chapter are provided with a full opportunity for involvement in both their development and implementation, the department and local governments shall:

(1) Make reasonable efforts to inform the people of the state about the shoreline management program of this chapter and in the performance of the responsibilities provided in this chapter, shall not only invite but actively encourage participation by all persons and private groups and entities showing an interest in shoreline management programs of this chapter; and

(2) Invite and encourage participation by all agencies of federal, state, and local government, including municipal and public corporations, having interests or responsibilities relating to the shorelines of the state. State and local agencies are directed to participate fully to insure that their interests are fully considered by the department and local governments.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. (1) No development shall be undertaken on the shorelines of the state except those which are consistent with the policy of this chapter and, after adoption or approval, as appropriate, the applicable guidelines, regulations or master program.

(2) No substantial development shall be undertaken on shorelines of the state without first obtaining a permit from the

government entity having administrative jurisdiction under this chapter.

A permit shall be granted:

(a) From the effective date of this chapter until such time as an applicable master program has become effective, only when the development proposed is consistent with: (i) The policy of section 2 of this 1971 act; and (ii) after their adoption, the guidelines and regulations of the department; and (iii) so far as can be ascertained, the master program being developed for the area. In the event the department is of the opinion that any permit granted under this subsection is inconsistent with the policy declared in section 2 of this 1971 act or is otherwise not authorized by this section, the department may appeal the issuance of such permit within thirty days to the hearings board upon written notice to the local government and the permittee;

(b) After adoption or approval, as appropriate, by the department of an applicable master program, only when the development proposed is consistent with the applicable master program and the policy of section 2 of this 1971 act.

(3) Local government shall establish a program, consistent with rules adopted by the department, for the administration and enforcement of the permit system provided in this section. Any such system shall include a requirement that all applications and permits shall be subject to the same public notice procedures as provided for applications for waste disposal permits for new operations under RCW 90.48.170. The administration of the system so established shall be performed exclusively by local government.

(4) Such system shall include provisions to assure that construction pursuant to a permit will not begin or be authorized until forty-five days from the date of final approval by the local government or until all review proceedings are terminated if such proceedings were initiated within forty-five days from the date of final approval by the local government.

(5) Any ruling on an application for a permit under authority of this section, whether it be an approval or a denial, shall, concurrently with the transmittal of the ruling to the applicant, be filed with the department and the attorney general.

(6) Applicants for permits under this section shall have the burden of proving that a proposed substantial development is consistent with the criteria which must be met before a permit is granted. In any review of the granting or denial of an application for a permit as provided in section 16(1) of this chapter, the person requesting the review shall have the burden of proof.

(7) Any permit may be rescinded by the issuing authority upon the finding that a permittee has not complied with conditions of a

permit. In the event the department is of the opinion that such noncompliance exists, the department may appeal within thirty days to the hearings board for a rescission of such permit upon written notice to the local government and the permittee.

(8) The holder of a certification from the governor pursuant to chapter 80.50 RCW shall not be required to obtain a permit under this section.

(9) No permit shall be required for any development on shorelines of the state included within a preliminary or final plat approved by the applicable state agency or local government prior to April 1, 1971, if:

(a) The final plat was approved after April 13, 1961, or the preliminary plat was approved after April 30, 1969, or

(b) Sales of lots to purchasers with reference to the plat, or substantial development incident to platting or required by the plat, occurred prior to April 1, 1971, and

(c) The development to be made without a permit meets all requirements of the applicable state agency or local government, other than requirements imposed pursuant to this chapter, and

(d) The development does not involve construction of buildings, or involves construction on wetlands of buildings to serve only as community social or recreational facilities for the use of owners of platted lots and the buildings do not exceed a height of thirty-five feet above average grade level, and

(e) The development is completed within two years after the effective date of this chapter.

(10) The applicable state agency or local government is authorized to approve a final plat with respect to shorelines of the state included within a preliminary plat approved after April 30, 1969, and prior to April 1, 1971: PROVIDED, That any substantial development within the platted shorelines of the state is authorized by a permit granted pursuant to this section, or does not require a permit as provided in subsection (9) of this section, or does not require a permit because of substantial development occurred prior to the effective date of this chapter.

(11) Any permit for a variance or a conditional use by local government under approved master programs must be submitted to the department for its approval or disapproval.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. With respect to timber situated within two hundred feet abutting landward of the ordinary high water mark within shorelines of state-wide significance, the department or local government shall allow only selective commercial timber cutting, so that no more than thirty percent of the merchantable trees may be harvested in any ten year period of time: PROVIDED, That other timber harvesting methods may be permitted in those limited instances

where the topography, soil conditions or silviculture practices necessary for regeneration render selective logging ecologically detrimental: PROVIDED FURTHER, That clear cutting of timber which is solely incidental to the preparation of land for other uses authorized by this chapter may be permitted.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. Surface drilling for oil or gas is prohibited in the waters of Puget Sound north to the Canadian boundary and the Strait of Juan de Fuca seaward from the ordinary high water mark and on all lands within one thousand feet landward from said mark.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. A shorelines hearings board sitting as a quasi judicial body is hereby established which shall be made up of six members: Three members shall be members of the pollution control hearings board; two members, one appointed by the association of Washington cities and one appointed by the association of county commissioners, both to serve at the pleasure of the associations; and the state land commissioner or his designee. The chairman of the pollution control hearings board shall be the chairman of the shorelines hearings board. A decision must be agreed to by at least four members of the board to be final. The pollution control hearings board shall provide the shorelines appeals board such administrative and clerical assistance as the latter may require. The members of the shoreline appeals board shall receive the compensation, travel, and subsistence expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and RCW 43.03.060.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. (1) Any person aggrieved by the granting or denying of a permit on shorelines of the state, or rescinding a permit pursuant to section 15 of this chapter may seek review from the shorelines hearings board by filing a request for the same within thirty days of receipt of the final order. Concurrently with the filing of any request for review with the board as provided in this section pertaining to a final order of a local government, the requestor shall file a copy of his request with the department and the attorney general. If it appears to the department or the attorney general that the requestor has valid reasons to seek review, either the department or the attorney general may certify the request within thirty days after its receipt to the shorelines hearings board following which the board shall then, but not otherwise, review the matter covered by the requestor: PROVIDED, That the failure to obtain such certification shall not preclude the requestor from obtaining a review in the superior court under any right to review otherwise available to the requestor. The department and the attorney general may intervene to protect the public interest and insure that the provisions of this chapter are complied with at any time within forty-five days from the date of the filing of said

copies by the requestor.

(2) The department or the attorney general may obtain review of any final order granting a permit, or granting or denying an application for a permit issued by a local government by filing a written request with the shorelines appeals board and the appropriate local government within forty-five days from the date the final order was filed as provided in subsection (5) of section 14 of this 1971 act.

(3) The review proceedings authorized in section 18(1) and (2) of this 1971 act are subject to the provisions of chapter 34.04 RCW pertaining to procedures in contested cases. The provisions of chapter 43.21B RCW and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the pollution control hearings board, insofar as they are not inconsistent with chapter 34.04 RCW, relating to the procedures for the conduct of hearings and judicial review thereof, shall be applicable to all requests for review as provided for in section 18(1) and (2) of this 1971 act.

(4) Local government may appeal to the shorelines hearing board any rules, regulations, guidelines, designations or master programs for shorelines of the state adopted or approved by the department within thirty days of the date of the adoption or approval. The board shall make a final decision within sixty days following the hearing held thereon.

(a) In an appeal relating to a master program for shorelines, the board, after full consideration of the positions of the local government and the department, shall determine the validity of the master program. If the board determines that said program:

(i) is clearly erroneous in light of the policy of this chapter; or

(ii) constitutes an implementation of this chapter in violation of constitutional or statutory provisions; or

(iii) is arbitrary and capricious; or

(iv) was developed without fully considering and evaluating all proposed master programs submitted to the department by the local government; or

(v) was not adopted in accordance with required procedures; the board shall enter a final decision declaring the program invalid, remanding the master program to the department with a statement of the reasons in support of the determination, and directing the department to adopt, after a thorough consultation with the affected local government, a new master program. Unless the board makes one or more of the determinations as hereinbefore provided, the board shall find the master program to be valid and enter a final decision to that effect.

(b) In an appeal relating to a master program for shorelines

of state-wide significance the board shall approve the master program adopted by the department unless a local government shall, by clear and convincing evidence and argument, persuade the board that the master program approved by the department is inconsistent with the policy of section 2 of this chapter and the applicable guidelines.

(c) In an appeal relating to rules, regulations, guidelines, master programs of state-wide significance and designations, the standard of review provided in RCW 34.04.070 shall apply.

(5) Rules, regulations, designations, master programs and guidelines shall be subject to review in superior court, if authorized pursuant to RCW 34.04.070: PROVIDED, That no review shall be granted by a superior court on petition from a local government unless the local government shall first have obtained review under subsection (4) of this section and the petition for court review is filed within three months after the date of final decision by the shorelines hearing board.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. The department and each local government shall periodically review any master programs under its jurisdiction and make such adjustments thereto as are necessary. Each local government shall submit any proposed adjustments, to the department as soon as they are completed. No such adjustment shall become effective until it has been approved by the department.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. The department and local governments are authorized to adopt such rules as are necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. The attorney general or the attorney for the local government shall bring such injunctive, declaratory, or other actions as are necessary to insure that no uses are made of the shorelines of the state in conflict with the provisions and programs of this chapter, and to otherwise enforce the provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. In addition to incurring civil liability under section 21 of this 1971 act, any person found to have wilfully engaged in activities on the shorelines of the state in violation of the provisions of this chapter or any of the master programs, rules, or regulations adopted pursuant thereto shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment: PROVIDED, That the fine for the third and all subsequent violations in any five-year period shall be not less than five hundred nor more than ten thousand dollars.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. Any person subject to the regulatory program of this chapter who violates any provision of this chapter or permit issued pursuant thereto shall be liable for all damage to

public or private property arising from such violation, including the cost of restoring the affected area to its condition prior to violation. The attorney general or local government attorney shall bring suit for damages under this section on behalf of the state or local governments. Private persons shall have the right to bring suit for damages under this section on their own behalf and on the behalf of all persons similarly situated. If liability has been established for the cost of restoring an area affected by a violation the court shall make provision to assure that restoration will be accomplished within a reasonable time at the expense of the violator. In addition to such relief, including money damages, the court in its discretion may award attorney's fees and costs of the suit to the prevailing party.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 24. In addition to any other powers granted hereunder, the department and local governments may:

(1) Acquire lands and easements within shorelines of the state by purchase, lease, gift, or eminent domain, either alone or in concert with other governmental entities, when necessary to achieve implementation of master programs adopted hereunder;

(2) Accept grants, contributions, and appropriations from any agency, public or private, or individual for the purposes of this chapter;

(3) Appoint advisory committees to assist in carrying out the purposes of this chapter;

(4) Contract for professional or technical services required by it which cannot be performed by its employees.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 25. The department is directed to cooperate fully with local governments in discharging their responsibilities under this chapter. Funds shall be available for distribution to local governments on the basis of applications for preparation of master programs. Such applications shall be submitted in accordance with regulations developed by the department. The department is authorized to make and administer grants within appropriations authorized by the legislature to any local government within the state for the purpose of developing a master shorelines program.

No grant shall be made in an amount in excess of the recipient's contribution to the estimated cost of such program.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 26. The state, through the department of ecology and the attorney general, shall represent its interest before water resource regulation management, development, and use agencies of the United States, including among others, the federal power commission, environmental protection agency, corps of engineers, department of the interior, department of agriculture and the atomic energy commission, before interstate agencies and the courts with



regard to activities or uses of shorelines of the state and the program of this chapter. Where federal or interstate agency plans, activities, or procedures conflict with state policies, all reasonable steps available shall be taken by the state to preserve the integrity of its policies.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 27. (1) Nothing in this statute shall constitute authority for requiring or ordering the removal of any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed in navigable waters prior to December 4, 1969, and the consent and authorization of the state of Washington to the impairment of public rights of navigation, and corollary rights incidental thereto, caused by the retention and maintenance of said structures, improvements, docks, fills or developments are hereby granted: PROVIDED, That the consent herein given shall not relate to any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed on tidelands, shorelands, or beds underlying said waters which are in trespass or in violation of state statutes.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed as altering or abridging any private right of action, other than a private right which is based upon the impairment of public rights consented to in subsection (1) hereof.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as altering or abridging the authority of the state or local governments to suppress or abate nuisances or to abate pollution.

(4) Subsection (1) of this section shall apply to any case pending in the courts of this state on the effective date of this chapter relating to the removal of structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments based on the impairment of public navigational rights.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 28. The provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to all agencies of state government, counties, and public and municipal corporations and to all shorelines of the state owned or administered by them.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 29. The restrictions imposed by this act shall be considered by the county assessor in establishing the fair market value of the property.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 30. The department of ecology is designated the state agency responsible for the program of regulation of the shorelines of the state, including coastal shorelines and the shorelines of the inner tidal waters of the state, and is authorized to cooperate with the federal government and sister states and to receive benefits of any statutes of the United States whenever enacted which relate to the programs of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 31. Additional shorelines of the state shall be designated shorelines of state-wide significance only by

affirmative action of the legislature.

The director of the department may, however, from time to time, recommend to the legislature areas of the shorelines of the state which have state-wide significance relating to special economic, ecological, educational, developmental, recreational, or aesthetic values to be designated as shorelines of state-wide significance.

Prior to making any such recommendation the director shall hold a public hearing in the county or counties where the shoreline under consideration is located. It shall be the duty of the county commissioners of each county where such a hearing is conducted to submit their views with regard to a proposed designation to the director at such date as the director determines but in no event shall the date be later than sixty days after the public hearing in the county.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 32. No permit shall be issued pursuant to this chapter for any new or expanded building or structure of more than thirty-five feet above average grade level on shorelines of the state that will obstruct the view of a substantial number of residences on areas adjoining such shorelines except where a master program does not prohibit the same and then only when overriding considerations of the public interest will be served.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 33. The department of ecology, the attorney general, and the harbor line commission are directed as a matter of high priority to undertake jointly a study of the locations, uses and activities, both proposed and existing, relating to the shorelines of the cities, and towns of the state and submit a report which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Events leading to the establishment of the various harbor lines pertaining to cities of the state;
- (2) The location of all such harbor lines;
- (3) The authority for establishment and criteria used in location of the same;
- (4) Present activities and uses made within harbors and their relationship to harbor lines;
- (5) Legal aspects pertaining to any uncertainty and inconsistency; and
- (6) The relationship of federal, state and local governments to regulation of uses and activities pertaining to the area of study.

The report shall be submitted to the legislature not later than December 1, 1972.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 34. All state agencies, counties, and public and municipal corporations shall review administrative and management policies, regulations, plans, and ordinances relative to lands under their respective jurisdictions adjacent to the shorelines

of the state so as to achieve a use policy on said land consistent with the policy of this chapter, the guidelines, and the master programs for the shorelines of the state. The department may develop recommendations for land use control for such lands. Local governments shall, in developing use regulations for such areas, take into consideration any recommendations developed by the department as well as any other state agencies or units of local government.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 35. Nothing in this chapter shall affect any rights established by treaty to which the United States is a party.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 36. Nothing in this chapter shall obviate any requirement to obtain any permit, certificate, license, or approval from any state agency or local government.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 37. This chapter is exempted from the rule of strict construction, and it shall be liberally construed to give full effect to the objectives and purposes for which it was enacted.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 38. Sections 1 through 37 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 90 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 39. To carry out the provisions of this 1971 act there is appropriated to the department from the general fund the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as necessary.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 40. If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or legal entity or circumstances, is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or legal entities or circumstances, shall not be affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 41. This chapter is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government, and its existing institutions. This 1971 act shall take effect on June 1, 1971. The director of ecology is authorized to immediately take such steps as are necessary to insure that this 1971 act is implemented on its effective date.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 42. This 1971 act constitutes an alternative to Initiative 43. The secretary of state is directed to place this 1971 act on the ballot in conjunction with Initiative 43 at the next ensuing regular election.

This 1971 act shall continue in force and effect until the secretary of state certifies the election results on this 1971 act. If affirmatively approved at the ensuing regular general election, the act shall continue in effect thereafter.

Passed the House May 6, 1971.

Passed the Senate May 4, 1971.

Approved by the Governor May 21, 1971 with the exception of an

item in section 3 which is vetoed.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 21, 1971.

Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"...Substitute House Bill 584 is one of the most significant pieces of legislation ever passed by the state legislature. It is a clear indication of the commitment of the people of the state, acting through the legislative process to assure the future environmental quality of this state. With the passage of Substitute House Bill 584 and with what I hope will be the approval of the people at the next general election this state will lead the nation in its care and concern for its waterfront areas.

Veto  
Message

This bill is the product of extensive legislative hearings, both during the 1970 and 1971 sessions and the interim. It successfully provides for a maximum of input at the local level with appropriate safeguards at the state level to protect the general public interest.

With regard to the general public interest, while the bill should provide for a diversity of participation on the part of local governments in the planning process, the authority at the state level should be confined to a single agency so that a uniform state policy can be developed. Furthermore, as a general principle an agency should not be in the position of both preparing and approving plans for land which it owns or controls.

The proviso in section 3(c) which declares that the Department of Natural Resources "shall have the powers, duties, and obligations as local government has as to other lands covered by the provisions of this chapter" places more than one agency of state government in a policy making position and in effect allows a large land owner both to make and approve its own plans. While I have the highest respect for the Department of Natural Resources and the Commissioner of Public Lands I believe the proviso in section 3(c) is contrary to sound public policy and should be vetoed.

The remainder of Substitute House Bill No. 584 is approved."