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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6855**

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**State of Washington**

**59th Legislature**

**2006 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development  
(originally sponsored by Senators Schoesler and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to barley straw for water clarification; and adding  
2 a new section to chapter 90.48 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 90.48 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the  
7 application of barley straw to waters of the state for the purposes of  
8 water clarification does not require a state waste discharge permit as  
9 long as the following provisions are met:

10 (a) The barley straw is applied at a rate of up to two hundred  
11 twenty-five pounds per acre of surface water;

12 (b) Whole bales or tightly packed straw are not used. Straw must  
13 be loosely packed in nylon or mesh bags;

14 (c) Bags of straw are placed where control is desired, such as  
15 around docks and swim areas, and around inlets to aid in aeration or  
16 mixing;

17 (d) The bags must be staked or anchored in place;

18 (e) Straw is placed in early spring, prior to the growth of algae;

19 and

1           (f) Bags are removed four to six months after placement and must  
2 not be left in the water over winter.

3           (2) The placement of barley straw into waters of the state in any  
4 other instance is not authorized absent a permit.

5           (3) This section does not alter any permit requirement that may  
6 exist under chapter 77.55 RCW.

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