



Senate Bill 574

Summary of Amendments

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Section 51203: renumbered to 51238.1 (***Cancellation Valuation***)

- Removes the ability of the Department and Landowner to determine a Williamson Act contract cancellation fee independent of the County assessor's valuation.

Section 51207: (***State report to Legislature***)

- The Department will no longer publish a biennial Williamson Act Report. Section 51207 now requires the Department to post on its website biennially: the number of acres of land under contract, the number of acres removed from contract through cancellation, eminent domain, or annexation.

Section 51237.5: (***County WA reporting requirements***)

- Section 51237.5 now requires that on or before January 30th of each year, each city or county in which an agricultural preserve is located shall provide the Department with geographical information system (GIS) data files of all agricultural preserves and Williamson Act contracted land in existence at the end of the preceding year.

Section 51245: (***Notice of Nonrenewal***)

- Removes the requirement to notify the Department within 30 days of a notice of nonrenewal or a notice of withdrawal of a nonrenewal.

Section 51246: (***Notice of Expiration***)

- Removes the requirement to notify the Department within 30 days of the expiration of a Williamson Act contract.

Section 51249: (***Filing of Sample Contract***) **REPEALED**

- Section 51249 has been repealed removing the requirement to provide the Department with a sample copy of each form of contract.

Section 51280.1: (***Cancellation and Alternate Use will not result in Urban Development***)

- This change removes the reference to Section 51282.1. The entire Section 51282.1 was removed in prior legislative session and no longer applies

Section 51283: (***Determination of Cancellation Fee, Fee Waiver, Fee Collection***)

- The Assessor is no longer required to send a copy of the fee valuation to the Department of Conservation. The valuation will be sent to the Board or Council

and the landowner. There is a small change to reflect the reference change from Section 51203 to 51283.1

Section 51283.4: **(Tentative Cancellation)**

- Changes the language to be consistent with 51283.1(c) (old section 51203(c)) that makes the cancellation fee valid for one year after the Assessor's original valuation.
- Requires the County to send a withdrawal of Tentative Cancellation to the Department of Conservation.

Section 51283.5: **(Cancellation Formal Review Procedures)**

- If a formal review was requested by the landowner, they have the option to pay the fee plus a 20% security deposit pending the outcome of the formal review so that they may record the final certificate of cancellation. The change removes the Department of Conservation's involvement in determining the adequacy of the security deposit.

Section 51284: **(Cancellation, Public Notice/Hearing)**

- Removes the requirement for the county to send notice of the upcoming public hearing for a cancellation petition to the Department of Conservation. The County is still required to send the published notice of the decision made for the cancellation.

Section 51284.1: **(Department Review of Cancellation)**

- Eliminates the Department's review and comment period for a pending Williamson Act cancellation.

Section 51291: **(Public Agency / Eminent Domain)**

- Eliminates the Department of Conservation's review and comment period for a public Acquisition of Williamson Act land. The public agency must notify the local governing body of the public acquisition and consider any comments they may have.

Section 51294: **(Enforcement of Eminent Domain)**

- Eliminates the Department of Conservation's enforcement of the findings required by section 51292.

Section 51294.1: **(Eminent Domain of Water Transmission Facilities)**

- Removes language from statute referring to the required notification of a public acquisition to the Department of Conservation. Public Agencies are to work with the County/City administering the preserve.

Section 51295: **(Eminent Domain, 3rd notice requirements)**

- Removes language that requires the public agency to notify the Department of Conservation if land was not used for the intended public acquisition. The public agency is still required to notify the city/county administering the preserve.

Section 51297: **(FSZ Cancellation)**

- Removes language requiring the Department of Conservation to approve a cancellation for a Farmland Security Zone contract. Local agencies must still make appropriate findings and may seek guidance from the Department.