

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA BILL**

NO. 2006 59

<b>CLEARANCES</b>	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Date Received in Council Office</b>	<b>Agenda Date</b>	<b>Assigned to:</b>
Originator:		1/17/2006		1/17/2006	Council
Division Head:					
Dept. Head:	<i>(Signature)</i>	1.17.06			
Prosecutor:					
Purchasing/Budget:					
Executive:					

**TITLE OF DOCUMENT:**  
 Resolution supporting the retention of the Magnuson Amendment

**ATTACHMENTS:**

SEPA review required? ( ) Yes ( ) NO	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? ( ) Yes ( ) NO
SEPA review completed? ( ) Yes ( ) NO	Requested Date:

**SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:** *(If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)*  
 Resolution supporting the retention of the Magnuson Amendment of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

**COUNCIL ACTION:**  
 1/17/2006: Approved 6-0-1 Crawford abstained  
 Resolution Number 2006-005

**Related County Contract #:**

**Related File Numbers:**

**Ordinance or Resolution Number:** Res. 2006-005

**Please Note:** Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County's website at: [www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council](http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council).

**PROPOSED BY: Consent**  
**SPONSORED BY: Consent**  
**INTRODUCED: January 17, 2006**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2006-005**

**SUPPORTING THE RETENTION OF THE MAGNUSON AMENDMENT OF  
THE MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT**

**WHEREAS**, Puget Sound is a life-giving estuary, the home of multitude of species, including 40 species that warrant special protection, including the federally listed Puget Sound orcas, chinook and chum salmon; and,

**WHEREAS**, the health of the Puget Sound ecosystem is at risk, as evidenced by the large number of water bodies polluted by past industrial practices, ongoing industrial discharges and stormwater discharges and by declining populations of rockfish, salmon, forage fish, marine birds, and orcas; and,

**WHEREAS**, oil spills are a grave threat to ecosystems and marine and nearshore animals, as evidenced by long-term impairment observed at Valdez, Alaska, 16 years after the Exxon spill; and,

**WHEREAS**, the likelihood and severity of oil spills is increased by the increasing number of tankers in Puget Sound and the volume that those tankers carry; and,

**WHEREAS**, a single large oil spill could be devastating to the Puget Sound ecosystem; and,

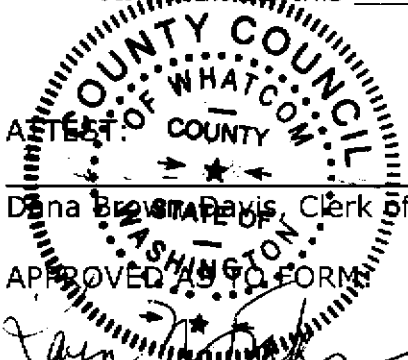
**WHEREAS**, the Federal Magnuson Amendment places limits on amount of crude oil transiting Puget Sound by prohibiting the issuance of permits required to modify or construct facilities adjacent to navigable waters, where they enable an increase in the volume of crude oil being handled at the facility; and,

**WHEREAS**, some members of Congress are attempting to repeal the Magnuson Amendment, and thereby allow an increase in crude oil transiting Puget Sound; and,

**WHEREAS**, many of Washington's elected representatives to Congress, have stated that they do not support the repeal of the Magnuson Amendment because of the grave consequences that an oil spill could have in Puget Sound;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Whatcom County Council that we support the efforts of members of the Washington State delegation to oppose the repeal of the Magnuson Amendment.

APPROVED this 17th day of January, 2006.



ATTEST: Dina Brown Davis, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*[Signature]*  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*[Signature]*  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, Council Chair