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**HOUSE BILL 1707**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Dent and Dye

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a review process before the state  
2 noxious weed control board may list certain agricultural crops as  
3 noxious weeds; amending RCW 17.10.080; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that effective  
6 communication between affected parties and regulators is always  
7 important, but especially so at the present time, as agricultural  
8 producers and the agricultural economy are under strain. Therefore,  
9 the legislature intends to restrict the listing of any agricultural  
10 crops as noxious weeds before the state noxious weed control board  
11 has the opportunity to hold public hearings on recommendations  
12 provided by work groups convened by the department of agriculture and  
13 composed of agricultural producers.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 17.10.080 and 2011 c 126 s 1 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) The state noxious weed control board shall each year or more  
17 often, following a hearing, adopt a state noxious weed list.

18 (2) The state noxious weed control board shall adopt guidelines  
19 by rule for placing plants on the state noxious weed list. These  
20 guidelines must include criteria for reconsideration of proposed new

1 species that were not adopted by the state noxious weed control  
2 board, including the need for the board to be presented with  
3 additional data from scientific sources regarding any invasive and  
4 noxious qualities of the species and from existing positive economic  
5 benefits before taking any action. These guidelines must prohibit the  
6 listing of agricultural crops as noxious weeds before the board  
7 receives, and conducts a public hearing on, recommendations provided  
8 by a work group convened by the department of agriculture that has  
9 members who include, at a minimum, affected agricultural producers  
10 and one member of the board.

11 (3) Any person may request during a comment period established by  
12 the state noxious weed control board the inclusion, deletion, or  
13 designation change of any plant to the state noxious weed list.

14 (4) The state noxious weed control board shall send a copy of the  
15 list to each activated county noxious weed control board, to each  
16 weed district, and to the county legislative authority of each county  
17 with an inactive noxious weed control board.

18 (5) The record of rule making must include the written findings  
19 of the board for the inclusion of each plant on the list. The  
20 findings shall be made available upon request to any interested  
21 person.

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