

**Testimony on SB 244 regarding Expiration of Rules and Regulations after 5 years
To
The Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

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SB 244 would sunset rules and regulations five years after adoption unless an extension is approved by the Legislature. The Department appreciates the opportunity to present more information on the effect SB 244 would have on our agency. The act would be effective upon publication in the statute book.

The Department manages approximately 180 regulations. Some of those regulations are reviewed and amended on an annual basis, such as deer and turkey seasons, some may only be amended on a five-year cycle as directed by the Legislature, such as endanger species reviews, listings and de-listings, and some regulations may go 10 years or more, such as deer management units, where long term consistency in the regulation is important for determining trends. Some regulations may very rarely be amended because they serve the purpose for what they are intended, such as the legal equipment for upland birds.

Because of the way KDWPT statutes are drafted, regulations are the process by which hunting, fishing, state park camping and boating occurs. Without regulation, those activities cannot be conducted and the corresponding economic generation that occur within the state will cease. Further, because the department is fee funded, regulations are mechanism that funds the way services are provided by the agency.

This bill would add an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy to an already burdensome process. Regulations must be promulgated within the bounds of statutory authority, which is already the purview of the Legislature. If the Legislature disagrees with the direction of agency regulation, the Legislature has the ability to simply revoke or amend the regulatory authority or provide additional guidance in statute.

The Department would like to thank the Committee for your thoughtful consideration of our concerns regarding the practical implications of SB 244.