

Submitter: Bleauregard Kasadu

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: SB1509

The state cannot favor ethnicity, as it defines a people who identify with a culture in a geographic range. A culture is an invention of thought or an expression of art. It is a combination of the application of technology, food, fashion, dance, language, and religious or otherwise traditional activities. The state can provide a platform for ethnicity to be represented, but it cannot itself influence which ethnicities-- and their cultural nuances-- are represented.

However, the US made a deal with a group of other nations-- the Native American tribes-- as part of assimilation into ours. A deal where we must respect their culture. Reducing gillnet fishing in the Columbia River would support Native Americans' ability to practice their culture in regards to fishing in the area. It would also improve populations of salmon, since they return to the same streams from the Pacific Ocean to lay eggs. The spawning stage would ordinarily be interrupted by being caught in the gillnets. The long-term growth of salmon in the ocean would mean that not only would populations being caught be greater, the size of individual salmon would be more substantial.

Washington had a bill on the table to outright ban gillnets-- SB 5297-- but the provisions to do so were removed.

We could also deploy artificial intelligence to sort male and female including those who are pregnant, but that would be the subject of a different bill.