
DIGEST

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HB 661 Original

2024 Regular Session

Bryant

Abstract: Requires freshwater charter boat fishing guides to have a United States Coast Guard captain's license in addition to the state charter boat fishing guide license and establishes a fine for a first offense violation of charter fishing licensing requirements.

Present law requires charter boat fishing guides to have a charter boat fishing guide license.

Present law further requires that saltwater charter boat fishing guides also have a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license and that the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries provided written notice to freshwater charter boat fishing guides that they may be subject to other legal requirements, including holding a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license.

Proposed law requires freshwater charter boat fishing guides to also have a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license and removes the requirement that the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries provide them written notice of the requirement.

Present law provides that a person violating the license requirements for charter fishing for a second time will only be allowed to operate a vessel with a monitoring system for three years, and for a third time will only be allowed to operate a vessel with a monitoring system for 10 years.

Proposed law adds that the penalty for a first offense violation of the charter fishing licensing requirements is a fine of up to \$1000.

(Amends R.S. 56:302.9(A)(1)(b) and (3) and (J)(1))