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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Amanda Trapp.

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DIGEST

SB 62 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Fesi

Present law establishes the Imported Seafood Safety Fund for the purpose providing funding to the La. Department of Health for sampling, testing, and monitoring raw seafood products of foreign origin that are imported and stored in Louisiana by commercial seafood permittees.

Proposed law changes the entity that receives monies from the fund for sampling and testing to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT).

Present law establishes a commercial seafood permit fee for seafood distributors and processing plants.

Proposed law requires that the permit be divided into separate classifications for processors and distributors and for processors that process either imported or domestic seafood.

Proposed law authorizes CRT to test seafood as recommended by the Seafood Safety Task Force and in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law requires CRT to contract with the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to sample, analyze, and test the seafood.

Proposed law authorizes CRT to assess fines and report certain violations to the La. Department of Health.

Proposed law establishes definitions for terms used in proposed law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 40:5.10.1 and 31.35(A)(intro para) and 31.35(C); adds R.S. 40:31.35.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Removes provisions relative to the commercial seafood permit fee.
2. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Change regulatory authority and funding for additional testing and enforcement from the La. Department of Health to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.
2. Require the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to contract with the La. Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to perform seafood testing.
3. Remove certain labeling and documentation requirements.
4. Change definitions.
5. Reduce the amount of fines for violations.