

## HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 748

2024 Regular Session

Domangue

SEAFOOD: Provides relative to imported seafood safety fees

### Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Provides that the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism is required to charge and collect the imported seafood safety fee, rather than the La. Dept. of Health.
2. Clarifies that the imported seafood safety fee is an annual fee and increases the fee from \$100 to \$250 for the 2025 calendar year, \$500 for the 2026 calendar year, \$750 for the 2027 calendar year, and \$1,000 for each year thereafter.
3. Removes provisions that would have repealed the Imported Seafood Safety Fund and retains provision of present law directing the imported seafood safety fee to be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund.
4. Removes provisions that would have directed the imported seafood safety fee to be used by the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board to sample, analyze, test, and monitor imported seafood and instead retains provisions of present law requiring that the present law Imported Seafood Safety Fund be used for such purposes.
5. Makes technical changes.

### Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law requires a commercial seafood plant or distributor to obtain an annual commercial seafood permit to operate in the state. Specifies that the permit partially supports the inspection, monitoring, sampling, and testing of seafood.

Present law requires holders of commercial seafood permits who sells imported seafood to pay an additional imported seafood safety fee of \$100 to the La. Dept. of Health.

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to collect the imported seafood safety fee. Additionally, increases the fee from \$100 to \$250 for the 2025 calendar year, \$500 for the 2026 calendar year, \$750 for the 2027 calendar year, and \$1,000 for each year thereafter.

The imported seafood safety fee under proposed law applies to all holders of commercial seafood permits who "process or distribute" imported seafood, rather than those that "sell" imported seafood.

Present law requires that all imported seafood safety fees be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund for sampling, analyzing, testing, and monitoring imported seafood. Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 40:31.35(C))