

ACT No. 719

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 676

BY REPRESENTATIVES KERNER, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BRAUD, ROBBY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, COATES, COX, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, GREEN, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, LARVADAIN, ORGERON, ROMERO, SELDERS, TAYLOR, WALTERS, AND ZERINGUE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:5.10.1 and R.S. 56:306(Section heading) and (B)(6) and
3 306.1(Section heading) and (B)(6) and to enact R.S. 56:306(B)(8) and 306.1(B)(8),
4 relative to imported seafood licenses and fees; to require licensed wholesale/retail
5 and licensed retail dealers who sell imported seafood to obtain an additional
6 imported seafood license; to establish license fees; to establish license duration and
7 purchasing; to allocate license revenue; to repeal a duplicative fee; and to provide for
8 related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 40:5.10.1 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §5.10.1. Imported Seafood Safety Fund

12 A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund designated as
13 the Imported Seafood Safety Fund, referred to hereafter in this Section as the "fund".
14 After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided
15 in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall
16 deposit in and credit to the fund monies collected pursuant to R.S. 40:31.35(C),
17 56:306(B)(8), and 306.1(B)(8). Monies in the fund shall be invested in the same
18 manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on investment of monies
19 shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered
20 monies in the fund shall remain in the fund. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated
21 to the office of public health of the Louisiana Department of Health and used
22 exclusively as provided in this Section.

1 (8)(a) In addition to the license requirements contained in this Section, any
 2 retail seafood dealer who sells seafood sourced from outside of the federal exclusive
 3 economic zone (EEZ) shall be required to purchase an imported seafood license in
 4 addition to his retail dealer's license. The imported seafood license shall be issued
 5 in the same manner as a retail seafood dealer's license and shall be issued only to a
 6 person who is a licensed retail seafood dealer.

7 (b) The license shall be valid for one year, beginning on January first of each
 8 calendar year and expiring on December thirty-first of the same calendar year. The
 9 license may be purchased at any time of the year for the current license year and
 10 from November fifteenth for the immediately following license year. The license fee
 11 shall be three hundred dollars.

12 (c) Ten percent of all revenues collected from the issuance of imported
 13 seafood licenses shall be deposited into the Conservation Fund as provided in R.S.
 14 56:10 and the remainder shall be deposited in the Imported Seafood Safety Fund as
 15 provided in R.S. 40:5.10.1.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____