

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 4

2018 Regular Session

Bishop

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

FISHING/RECREATIONAL: Extends the additional saltwater fishing fee dedicated to the LACREEL program and provides for funding of the saltwater fish stock estimate

DIGEST

Present law requires payment of a \$5.50 fee for a saltwater fishing license for residents and \$30 for nonresidents. Further requires that from June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2018, an additional fee of \$7.50 be paid for each resident saltwater fishing license issued and dedicates the revenue from the additional fee to the Saltwater Fish Research and Conservation Fund (fund) which is used solely for the administration and conducting of the Louisiana Recreational Creel Survey (LACREEL) and the Recreational Offshore Landing Permit (ROLP) program.

Proposed law extends the applicability date for the additional fee from May 31, 2018, to May 31, 2022.

Proposed law authorizes the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to increase the additional fee from \$7.50 to an amount not to exceed \$9.50. Any increase will be used for the administration and conducting of the saltwater fish stock estimate.

Proposed law allows the money in the fund to be used for a saltwater fish stock estimate.

Present law provides for the expenditures of money from the Artificial Reef Development Fund.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that up to two million dollars may be used for the administration and conducting of the saltwater fish stock estimate.

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

(Amends R.S. 56:10(B)(1)(g) and (16)(a) and 302.1(C)(1)(c); adds R.S. 56:639.8(E)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

- 1. Add an effective date upon signature of the governor.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Make a technical change.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to the reengrossed bill

- 1. Authorizes the La. Wildlife & Fisheries Commission to increase the additional \$7.50 fee up to \$9.50.

2. Adds the saltwater fish stock estimate to the list of programs funded by the Saltwater Fish Research and Conservation Fund.
3. Allows up to two million dollars to be used from the Artificial Reef Development Fund for the saltwater fish stock estimate.