

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 661

2024 Regular Session

Bryant

FISHING/COMMERCIAL: Provides relative to charter boat fishing guide licensing.

DIGEST

Present law requires that charter boat fishing guides possess and keep on his person while on the water proof of liability insurance.

Proposed law requires that charter boat fishing guides possess and keep on his person while on the water proof of commercial marine insurance.

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 a penalty for a first offense violation of the charter fishing licensing requirements of up to \$1000.

Present law provides for the membership of the Louisiana Finfish Task Force.

Proposed law retains present law and adds two members to the task force, including one member to be appointed by the governor from two nominees submitted by the Louisiana Charter Boat Association, and one member to be appointed by the governor from two nominees submitted by the Women's Southern Fisheries Alliance.

(Amends R.S. 56:302.9(A)(1) and (2) and (J)(1) and adds R.S. 56:301.10(B)(10) and (11))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove requirement for freshwater charter fishing guides to obtain a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license.
3. Reinstate language in current law requiring the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to provide written notification to freshwater charter fishing guides that they may be subject to additional legal requirements, including the requirement to obtain a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license.
4. Change the insurance requirement for charter fishing guides from liability insurance to commercial marine insurance.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Adds two members to the Louisiana Finfish Task Force, one member to be nominated by the Louisiana Charter Boat Association, and one member to be nominated by the Women's Southern Fisheries Alliance.