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DIGEST

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SB 40 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Allain

Present law establishes the Seafood Safety Task Force (task force) within the La. Dept. of Health as a 12 member task force charged with obtaining certain information regarding imported seafood and reporting the information to certain legislative committees by March 1, 2010.

Proposed law transfers the task force from La. Dept. of Health to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.

Proposed law adds that CRT shall administer a seafood program that includes the promotion and marketing of Louisiana seafood and the regulation of imported seafood.

Present law provides that the task force is charged with studying the inspection and testing of imported seafood.

Proposed law retains present law and charges the task force with studying all of the following:

- (1) The effects of antibody resistance due to the consumption of imported seafood.
- (2) The most effective way to educate the public about the importance of reading labels on seafood before consuming seafood.
- (3) The most effective methods for supporting the commercial seafood industry in this state.
- (4) The sufficiency and efficacy of penalties and fines imposed by present law.
- (5) Whether present law is properly updated and modernized.
- (6) Any other matter considered appropriate by the members of the task force or any matter requested by the legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, or state agency with responsibility of seafood safety.

Present law states that the task force shall report its recommendations to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare and the House and Senate committees on agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, and rural development by Mar. 1, 2010.

Proposed law requires the task force to report its recommendations to the governor and the legislature annually February 1st of each year.

Present law provides that the chair of the task force shall be a member appointed by the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law provides that the task force shall have as a member a representative of the La. Poison Control Center.

Proposed law repeals present law and provides that the task force shall have as a member a representative of the La. Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board.

Present law provides that the task force shall have as a member a representative of the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Proposed law repeals present law and provides that the task force shall have as a member a representative from the La. Shrimp Task Force.

Proposed law adds a member from the La. Retailers Association.

Present law provides that the task force shall convene for its first meeting no later than January 15, 2010.

Proposed law changes present law and provides that the task force shall meet at least quarterly.

Proposed law provides that at the first meeting of each calendar year, the members shall elect a chairman and other officers as they consider appropriate.

Present law authorizes the task force to appoint committees to facilitate coordination with other coastal or seafood producing states in the United States, a committee on coordination with the La. Congressional delegation and the bipartisan American Seafood Caucus, and a committee on promoting jobs and professional interest in commercial fisheries.

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

(Amends R.S. 40:5.5.3; Adds R.S. 36:204(A)(10) and 209(D)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Changes the member serving as chairman of the task force and the entity responsible for providing staff support.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the engrossed bill:

1. Place the Seafood Safety Task Force under the Dept. of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.
2. Add that the Seafood Safety Task Force may make recommendations on the use of money in the imported seafood safety fund.
3. Clarify that the task force shall recommend methods for protecting La. from foreign shrimp.
4. Allow the lieutenant governor to assign matters for the task force.
5. Remove three proposed members from the task force.
6. Require the Dept. of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism to promulgate any rules necessary to implement proposed law.
7. Make technical changes.