

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 748

2024 Regular Session

Domangue

SEAFOOD: Provides relative to imported seafood safety fees.

DIGEST

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 provides that a holder of a commercial seafood permit who sells imported seafood will be assessed an imported seafood safety fee of \$100 annually.

Proposed law increases the fee from \$100 to \$300.

Proposed law further applies to all holders of commercial seafood permits who process or distribute imported seafood, rather than those that sell imported seafood.

Proposed law requires that \$150 of each imported seafood safety fee be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund and the remainder be deposited into the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Fund.

Present law requires that all fees collected from commercial seafood permit holders selling imported seafood be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund, to be used by the La. Dept. of Health for sampling, analyzing, testing, and monitoring of raw seafood of foreign origin that are imported into the state and stored on the premises of any business holding a commercial seafood permit issued by the La. Dept. of Health.

Proposed law requires that the fees be deposited into the Seafood Marketing and Promotion Fund and used by the Seafood Marketing and Promotion Bd., in coordination with the commissioner of agriculture and forestry, for the sampling, analyzing, testing, and monitoring of raw seafood of foreign origin that are imported into the state and stored on the premises of any business holding a commercial seafood permit issued by the La. Dept. of Health.

(Amends R.S. 40:31.35(C) and R.S. 56:10(B)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove the fee based on the gross revenue of the distributor or processor.
3. Increase the imported seafood safety fee from \$100 to \$200.
4. Repeal the Imported Seafood Safety Fund and send the fee collected instead to the Seafood Marketing and Promotion Fund.
5. Authorize the Seafood Marketing and Promotion Bd. in coordination with the commissioner of agriculture and forestry to use the fee collected under proposed law for the sampling, analyzing, testing, and monitoring of raw seafood of foreign origin that are imported into the state and stored on the premises of any business holding a commercial seafood permit issued by the La. Dept. of Health.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Change imported seafood safety fee from \$200 to \$300.
2. Require that \$150 of each fee be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund and the remainder deposited into the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Fund.
3. Remove repeal of the Imported Seafood Safety Fund.