

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

## DIGEST

SB 62 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Fesi

Present law establishes a commercial seafood permit fee for seafood distributors and processing plants.

Proposed law requires that the commercial seafood permit be divided into separate classifications for domestic commercial seafood processors, imported commercial seafood processors, and commercial seafood distributors.

Present law requires all commercial seafood processors and distributors that process or distribute imported seafood to pay an additional imported seafood safety fee, which is deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund.

Present law establishes the Imported Seafood Safety Fund for the purpose providing funding to the Dept. of Health (LDH) for sampling, testing, and monitoring raw seafood products of foreign origin that are imported and stored in Louisiana by commercial seafood permittees.

Proposed law changes the entity that collects the imported seafood safety fee from LDH to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT) and changes the entity authorized to use the Imported Seafood Safety Fund for sampling and testing of imported seafood from LDH to CRT.

Proposed law authorizes CRT to test seafood as recommended by the Seafood Safety Task Force and in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law requires CRT to contract with the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to sample, analyze, and test the seafood.

Proposed law authorizes CRT to collect information from commercial seafood permit holders who distribute or process imported seafood and assess fines for imported seafood that does not meet testing standards and for imported seafood that is packed or labeled as domestic and requires CRT report certain violations to the LDH.

Proposed law requires the deposit of any fines collected by CRT into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund.

Proposed law establishes definitions for terms used in proposed law.

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

(Amends R.S. 40:5.10.1 and 31.35(A)(intro para) and 31.35(C); Adds R.S. 40:31.35.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Removes provisions relative to the commercial seafood permit fee.
2. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Change regulatory authority and funding for additional testing and enforcement from the La. Department of Health to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.
2. Require the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to contract with the La. Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to perform seafood testing.
3. Remove certain labeling and documentation requirements.
4. Change definitions.
5. Reduce the amount of fines for violations.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Reinstate present law directing the treasurer to deposit monies collected from the imported seafood safety fee in R.S. 40:31.35(C) in the Imported Seafood Safety Fund, rather than all fees required under R.S. 40:31.35.
2. Clarify present law requirement that all seafood distributors and processors obtain a commercial seafood permit from the Louisiana Department of Health.
3. Make a technical change.