

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 667 (SB 62)

2024 Regular Session

Fesi

Existing law establishes a commercial seafood permit fee for seafood processors and distributors.

New 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.

Existing 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.

Prior law established the Imported Seafood Safety Fund for the purpose of providing funding to the La. 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.

New 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.

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

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

New 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.

New law requires CRT report certain violations to LDH.

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

Effective June 18, 2024.

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