
DIGEST

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HB 652 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Kerner

Abstract: Transfers authority for imported seafood sampling, testing, and enforcement from the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry and requires reporting and accounting by commercial seafood by commercial processors and distributors of imported and commingled seafood and by dealers.

Present law provides for the Seafood Safety Task Force to work in conjunction with the state health officer, office of Lt. governor, the La. Seafood Promotion and Marketing Bd., and the La. Restaurant Assoc. to employ a marketing campaign for domestic seafood.

Proposed law replaces the Seafood Safety Task Force with the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry.

Present law creates the Seafood Safety Task Force within the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Proposed law moves the Seafood Safety Task Force to the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry.

Present law provides for the money for the Imported Seafood Safety Fund and the commercial seafood permit fee to go to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Proposed law transfers the provisions of present law to the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry.

Proposed law provides for seafood safety by creating regulations and testing requirements for commercial processors and distributors of imported and commingled seafood with civil penalties for failure to report or for violating safety provisions of proposed law and by creating reporting requirements for commercial processors and distributors of imported and commingled seafood.

Proposed law provides definitions for "commingled", "department", "distributor", "domestic", "processor", and "seafood".

Proposed law establishes powers of the commissioner of agriculture to oversee the testing and reporting requirements for seafood safety established by proposed law.

Proposed law provides authority for the commissioner of agriculture and forestry to administer a marketing program with the La. Seafood Promotion and Marketing Bd.

Proposed law provides for the Seafood Safety Task Force to be under the Dept. of Agriculture and

Forestry.

Present law provides for testing and regulation for imported seafood by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law provides for the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry to promulgate emergency rules necessary to implement present law.

Proposed law repeals present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 40:5.5.2(B)(2), 5.5.3(A), (B)(intro. para.), and (H), 5.10.1(B), and 31.35(C); Adds R.S. 3:4749 - 4749.3, R.S. 36:624(C) and 629(L)(5); Repeals R.S. 36:204(A)(10) and 209(D)(4), R.S.40:31.35.1, and Section 2 of Act No. 667 of the 2024 R.S.)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Change reporting requirements from "seafood processors and distributors" to "commercial processors and distributors of imported and commingled seafood".
2. Remove requirements for submitting records of imported seafood to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
3. Change the hearing procedure for violating a stop order issued by the commissioner of agriculture.
4. Make technical changes.