DIGEST

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Girod Jackson HB No. 245

Abstract: Requires a time limit at certain times of the year on transportation of oysters from harvest to refrigeration if the oysters are for raw consumption.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the year-round sale for raw consumption within the state, oysters which are harvested in La. waters. Requires the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to adopt rules and regulations for enforcement of this authority.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but requires that during the period from May 1 to Oct. 31 each year, movement of oysters from harvest to refrigeration must take no more than five hours. Further requires that the rules adopted by DHH must allow five hours for such movement.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes DHH to grant an exemption from the National Shellfish Sanitation Program's *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (*Vp*) and *Vibrio vulnificus* (*Vv*) management plans to harvesters and dealers who have not been epidemiologically linked to a *Vp* or *Vv* oyster-related illness.

Proposed law repeals present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 56:437; Repeals R.S. 40:5.3.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Natural Resources and</u> Environment to the original bill.

1. Makes the bill effective on signature by the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.