FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5017

C 227 L 95

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Establishing commercial fishery license fee and renewal provisions for years with no fishing season.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senator Snyder).

Senate Committee on Natural Resources House Committee on Natural Resources

Background: The Department of Fish and Wildlife's director does not have clear authority to refuse to collect or to refund license fees for a commercial fishery if the department does not allow a fishing season. With the moratoriums in effect for several commercial fisheries, it is necessary to provide that the failure to fish for a year will not invalidate a person's ability to receive licenses in subsequent years.

Summary: If the Department of Fish and Wildlife does not allow a commercial fishing season during a license year, the department may either waive the license fee for a commercial fishery or may refund the commercial fishery license fee that has been paid.

If a person with a commercial license does not fulfill poundage or landing requirements during the license year because the department does not allow a fishing season, the future renewal of a person's commercial fish license is not affected.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate 48 1

House 96 1 (House amended) Senate 46 0 (Senate concurred)

Effective: July 23, 1995