

1127-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Fisheries, Ecology & Parks
(originally sponsored by Representatives Hatfield, Buck, Cooper,
Blake, Pearson and Berkey)

Brief Description: Concerning the direct retail sale of sturgeon
and tuna. Revised for 1st Substitute: Concerning the direct retail
sale of salmon, crab, and sturgeon.

HB 1127-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that the commission may require that the holder of a
direct retail endorsement notify the department up to eighteen
hours before conducting an in-person sale of retail-eligible
species, except for in-person sales that have a cumulative retail
sales value of less than one hundred fifty dollars in a twenty-four
hour period that are sold directly from the vessel.

VETO MESSAGE ON HB 1127-S

May 20, 2003

To the Honorable Speaker and Members,
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to section 6,
Substitute House Bill No. 1127 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to the selling of commercially harvested
fish;"

This bill expands the scope of the direct retail endorsement. The
endorsement is an optional add-on to a commercial fishing license
that allows the holder to sell salmon, crab, and sturgeon directly
into the retail market.

Section 6 would have changed the tax base for the enhanced food
fish tax from "value" to "comparable sales price for similar
species of fish." This new tax base would be applicable to all
food fish, not just to food fish sold pursuant to the direct retail
endorsement. The new tax base is undefined and would deprive
taxpayers of certainty. Its administration would be burdensome and
complicated for both the industry and the Department of Revenue.

I am directing the Department of Revenue to work with the concerned
parties to resolve issues surrounding the tax base of food fish
sold pursuant to a direct retail endorsement. This should involve
education on the current application of the tax, as well as
development of potential legislation that would address direct
retail endorsement sales only.

For these reasons, I have vetoed section 6 of Substitute House Bill
No. 1127.

With the exception of section 6, Substitute House Bill No. 1127 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Locke
Governor