

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6154

AS OF JANUARY 21, 1992

Brief Description: Regarding recreational diving for food fish.

SPONSORS: Senator Owen

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Staff: Ross Antipa (786-7413)

Hearing Dates: January 28, 1992

BACKGROUND:

Divers must currently possess a valid personal use license in order to take food fish by skin diving or scuba diving, with an annual cost of \$3.

There is concern over harvesting of certain food fish by divers, and that a revised licensing and management system may be useful to improve management of spearfishing.

SUMMARY:

An annual recreational diving license is required of divers who spear food fish. Resident fees are \$6, and nonresident fees are \$18. A five-year moratorium on the taking of food fish in the Hood Canal by divers is established. Catch record cards are required for divers who spear ling cod.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: yes

Fiscal Note: requested January 21, 1992