
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6047

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senator L. Smith)

Read first time 02/04/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to commercial salmon licenses; amending RCW
2 75.28.040; and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this act is to implement
5 the findings of the commercial salmon licensing study undertaken
6 pursuant to Substitute Senate Bill No. 5501 (chapter 144, Laws of
7 1991). The bulk of the study was an investigation of the status of
8 commercial fishing licenses to determine the optimum number of
9 commercial fishing licenses to be made available to the industry.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 75.28.040 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 46 s 108 are each
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Commercial licenses and permits expire at midnight on December 31st
13 following their issuance and in accordance with this title may be

1 renewed annually upon application and payment of the prescribed license
2 fees and meeting the poundage salmon landing requirement for salmon
3 licenses to be developed in section 3 of this act. Department fish
4 tickets shall be required documentation for this requirement. In cases
5 where a commercial fisher is prevented from attaining the annual salmon
6 catch landing requirement because of an unforeseen emergency, such as
7 illness or severely short salmon seasons, the poundage landing
8 requirement may be waived by the director, following such
9 recommendation by the peer review board. The peer review board shall
10 be selected by the director from five commercial salmon fishing
11 licensees from the same gear type as the fisher who is appealing the
12 landing requirement.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A task force is created to address the
14 issue of commercial fishery gear reduction. The task force shall be
15 officially known as the "1992 commercial fishery gear reduction task
16 force." The task force shall consist of industry selected members from
17 the salmon troll industry, the Columbia river/Willapa Bay gill net
18 industry, Columbia river/Grays Harbor gill net industry, the Puget
19 Sound gill net industry, the Puget Sound purse seine industry, and the
20 reef net industry. Members shall be selected by their respective
21 industry group. Two individuals shall be selected from each gear
22 group. The director of the department of trade and economic
23 development shall appoint appropriate department representatives to
24 facilitate the functions of the full task force. The director of
25 fisheries shall provide assistance to the task force. The task force
26 shall submit to the legislature on or before January 1993, through the
27 director of the department of fisheries, a detailed plan to achieve
28 gear reduction or authorize a public auction process of the opportunity
29 to harvest salmon. The task force shall develop recommendations on

1 minimum poundage requirement for renewal of licenses, the optimum
2 number of licenses in each fishery, and a plan to reduce the current
3 number of licenses to the optimum number within a specific time
4 schedule. The task force shall adopt a resolution setting forth the
5 means and process by which the task force shall operate and the manner
6 in which their plan will be reviewed.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act shall not be construed as a
8 reallocation of salmon among user groups.