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HOUSE BILL 1972

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State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representative Hatfield

Read first time 02/18/2003. Referred to Committee on Fisheries,  
Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to the accounting of the commercial harvest of food  
2 fish; adding a new section to chapter 77.15 RCW; and prescribing  
3 penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.15 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 Since violation of rules of the department relating to the  
8 accounting of the commercial harvest of food fish, commercialized game  
9 fish, and shellfish result in damage to the resources of the state,  
10 persons selling such fish and shellfish at retail, including but not  
11 limited to stores, markets, and restaurants, must maintain sufficient  
12 records for the department to be able to ascertain the origin of the  
13 fish and shellfish in their possession.

14 (1) A retail fish seller is guilty of retail fish seller's failure  
15 to account for commercial harvest if the retail seller sells fish or  
16 shellfish at retail, the fish or shellfish were required to be entered  
17 on a Washington state fish receiving ticket, the seller is not a  
18 wholesale fish dealer or fisher selling under a direct retail sale

1 endorsement, and the seller fails to maintain sufficient records at the  
2 location where the fish or shellfish are being sold to determine the  
3 following:

4 (a) The name of the wholesale fish dealer from whom the fish were  
5 purchased;

6 (b) The wholesale fish dealer's license number;

7 (c) The fish receiving ticket number documenting original receipt,  
8 if known;

9 (d) The date of purchase; and

10 (e) The amount of fish or shellfish originally purchased from the  
11 wholesale dealer.

12 (2) A retail fish seller's failure to account for commercial  
13 harvest is a misdemeanor.

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