
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2431

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Fisheries, Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Upthegrove, Cooper and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 02/10/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to Dungeness crab endorsement; amending RCW
2 77.32.430; creating new sections; and providing an effective date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
5 optimize the management of the recreational allocation of Dungeness
6 crab in Washington state. To accomplish this task, it is necessary to
7 accurately and efficiently quantify the total catch by recreational
8 fishers for Dungeness crab using data from catch record cards.
9 Therefore, an endorsement fee on the catch record card paid at the time
10 of purchasing a recreational fishing license will be required for
11 Dungeness crab to specifically identify the recreational crab
12 harvesting population. The endorsement fee will significantly improve
13 the precision of the catch estimates by eliminating the current
14 practice of sampling fishers who do not participate in the recreational
15 crab fishery.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.32.430 and 2003 c 318 s 1 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 (1) Catch record card(~~s~~) information is necessary for proper

1 management of the state's food fish and game fish species and shellfish
2 resources. Catch record card administration shall be (~~administered~~)
3 under rules adopted by the commission (~~and issued at no charge for~~
4 ~~the~~). There is no charge for an initial catch record card (~~and ten~~
5 ~~dollars for~~). Each subsequent or duplicate catch record card (~~.—A~~
6 ~~duplicate catch record [card]~~) costs ten dollars.

7 (2) A license to take and possess Dungeness crab is only valid in
8 Puget Sound waters east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line if the fisher has
9 in possession a valid catch record card officially endorsed for
10 Dungeness crab. The endorsement shall cost no more than three dollars
11 including any or all fees authorized under RCW 77.32.050.

12 (3) Catch record cards issued with affixed temporary short-term
13 charter stamp licenses are not subject to the ten-dollar charge (~~as~~)
14 nor to the Dungeness crab endorsement fee provided for in this section.
15 Charter boat or guide operators issuing temporary short-term charter
16 stamp licenses shall affix the stamp to each catch record card issued
17 before fishing commences. Catch record cards issued with a temporary
18 short-term charter stamp are valid for two consecutive days.

19 (~~(3)~~) (4) The department shall include provisions for recording
20 marked and unmarked salmon in catch record cards issued after March 31,
21 2004.

22 (~~(4)~~) (5) The funds received from the sale of catch record cards
23 and the Dungeness crab endorsement must be deposited into the wildlife
24 fund. The funds received from the Dungeness crab endorsement may be
25 used only for the sampling, monitoring, and management of catch
26 associated with the Dungeness crab recreational fisheries. Moneys
27 allocated under this section shall supplement and not supplant other
28 federal, state, and local funds used for Dungeness crab recreational
29 fisheries management.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. After the completion of one season using the
31 Dungeness crab endorsement fee for Puget Sound recreational Dungeness
32 crab fisheries, the department of fish and wildlife shall evaluate the
33 effectiveness of the endorsement fee as a method for improving the
34 accuracy of catch estimates for the Puget Sound recreational Dungeness
35 crab fishery. The department's report shall include how the method has
36 affected their ability to more accurately estimate the preseason

1 allocation of the Puget Sound recreational Dungeness crab fishery and
2 monitor in-season catch. The department shall report their findings to
3 the appropriate committees of the legislature by May 15, 2006.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect December 1, 2004, and
5 applies only to those recreational licenses sold for the 2005-2006
6 Dungeness crab fishery and to all subsequent recreational Dungeness
7 crab fisheries.

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