
HOUSE BILL 2286

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Upthegrove, B. Sullivan and Dunshee

Read first time . Referred to .

1 AN ACT Relating to the Puget Sound Dungeness crab endorsement fee;
2 amending RCW 77.32.430; adding a new section to chapter 77.32 RCW;
3 adding a new section to chapter 77.70 RCW; creating a new section; and
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the recreational
7 fishing community agreed to self tax itself in 2004 regarding the
8 Dungeness crab fishery in Puget Sound in order to assist the department
9 of fish and wildlife in increasing the accuracy in the harvest
10 estimates. Recreational fishing is one of the most popular outdoor
11 activities in the state of Washington. The legislature finds that
12 Dungeness crab fishing is a major component of the recreational fishing
13 experience in Puget Sound and the opportunity for quality recreational
14 fisheries has steadily declined partially due to the continued
15 inaccuracy of harvest estimates and a lack of timely receipt of harvest
16 estimate data. The legislature further finds that the department of
17 fish and wildlife has chosen to impose restrictions on the recreational
18 crab fishery in Puget Sound rather than to focus on the problem of
19 improving data accuracy and timeliness of obtaining that data. Thus,

1 the legislature finds that a reduction in the endorsement fee collected
2 by the department of fish and wildlife is necessary to maintain a
3 reasonable fee amount for the level of opportunity provided.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 77.32 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A license to take and possess Dungeness crab is only valid in
7 Puget Sound east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line if the fisher has in
8 possession a valid catch record card officially endorsed for Dungeness
9 crab. The endorsement costs one dollar and fifty cents, including any
10 fees authorized under RCW 77.32.050, and deposited into the
11 recreational Dungeness crab endorsement account created in section 3 of
12 this act.

13 (2) Catch record cards issued with affixed temporary short-term
14 charter stamp licenses are not subject to the Dungeness crab
15 endorsement fee provided for in this section.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 77.70 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 The recreational Dungeness crab endorsement account is created in
19 the state treasury. All receipts from section 3 of this act must be
20 deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only
21 after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only
22 for costs associated with the sampling, monitoring, and management of
23 catch associated with the Dungeness crab recreational fisheries.
24 Moneys appropriated under this section must supplement and not supplant
25 other federal, state, and local funds used for Dungeness crab
26 recreational fisheries management. Under no circumstances may moneys
27 from the account be used to backfill shortfalls in other state funding
28 sources.

29 **Sec. 4.** RCW 77.32.430 and 2004 c 107 s 2 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 (1) Catch record card information is necessary for proper
32 management of the state's food fish and game fish species and shellfish
33 resources. Catch record card administration shall be under rules
34 adopted by the commission. There is no charge for an initial catch

1 record card. Each subsequent or duplicate catch record card costs ten
2 dollars.

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

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

15 ~~((4))~~ (3) The department shall include provisions for recording
16 marked and unmarked salmon in catch record cards issued after March 31,
17 2004.

18 ~~((5))~~ (4) The funds received from the sale of catch record cards
19 ~~((and the Dungeness crab endorsement))~~ must be deposited into the
20 wildlife fund. ~~((The funds received from the Dungeness crab
21 endorsement may be used only for the sampling, monitoring, and
22 management of catch associated with the Dungeness crab recreational
23 fisheries. Moneys allocated under this section shall supplement and
24 not supplant other federal, state, and local funds used for Dungeness
25 crab recreational fisheries management.))~~

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
28 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
29 immediately.

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