
HOUSE BILL 2431

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Upthegrove, Cooper and Chase

Read first time 01/14/2004. Referred to Committee on Fisheries,
Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to Dungeness crab endorsement; amending RCW
2 77.32.430; creating a new section; 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 if
8 the fisher has in possession a valid catch record card officially
9 endorsed for Dungeness crab. The endorsement shall cost no more than
10 three dollars including any or all fees authorized under RCW 77.32.050.

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

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

20 (4) The funds received from the sale of catch record cards and the
21 Dungeness crab endorsement must be deposited into the wildlife fund.
22 The funds received from the Dungeness crab endorsement may be used only
23 for the sampling and monitoring of catch associated with the Dungeness
24 crab recreational fisheries.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act takes effect December 1, 2004, and
26 applies only to those recreational licenses sold for the 2005-2006
27 Dungeness crab fishery and to all subsequent recreational Dungeness
28 crab fisheries.

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