
SENATE BILL 5794

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Spanel, Anderson, Snyder, Jacobsen, Morton and Kohl

Read first time 02/12/97. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to removing landing requirements for the Puget
2 Sound commercial crab fishery and allowing two licensees to operate one
3 vessel; and amending RCW 75.30.130 and 75.28.048.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 75.30.130 and 1993 c 340 s 34 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) It is unlawful to take dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*) in
8 Puget Sound without first obtaining a dungeness crab--Puget Sound
9 fishery license. As used in this section, "Puget Sound" has the
10 meaning given in RCW 75.28.110(5)(a). A dungeness crab--Puget Sound
11 fishery license is not required to take other species of crab,
12 including red rock crab (*Cancer productus*).

13 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (~~(+7)~~) (6) of this
14 section, after January 1, 1982, the director shall issue no new
15 dungeness crab--Puget Sound fishery licenses. Only a person who meets
16 the following qualification(~~(s)~~) may renew an existing license:
17 (~~(+a)~~) The person shall have held the dungeness crab--Puget Sound
18 fishery license sought to be renewed during the previous year or
19 acquired the license by transfer from someone who held it during the

1 previous year, and shall not have subsequently transferred the license
2 to another person(~~(i) and~~

3 ~~(b) The person shall document, by valid shellfish receiving tickets~~
4 ~~issued by the department, that one thousand pounds of dungeness crab~~
5 ~~were caught and sold during the previous two year period ending on~~
6 ~~December 31st of an odd numbered year:~~

7 ~~(i) Under the license sought to be renewed; or~~

8 ~~(ii) Under any combination of the following commercial fishery~~
9 ~~licenses that the person held when the crab were caught and sold: Crab~~
10 ~~pot--Non Puget Sound, crab ring net--Non Puget Sound, dungeness crab--~~
11 ~~Puget Sound. Sales under a license other than the one sought to be~~
12 ~~renewed may be used for the renewal of no more than one dungeness~~
13 ~~crab--Puget Sound fishery license)).~~

14 (3) Where the person failed to obtain the license during the
15 previous year because of a license suspension, the person may qualify
16 for a license by establishing that the person held such a license
17 during the last year in which the license was not suspended.

18 (4) ~~((The director may reduce or waive the poundage requirement~~
19 ~~established under subsection (2)(b) of this section upon the~~
20 ~~recommendation of a review board established under RCW 75.30.050. The~~
21 ~~review board may recommend a reduction or waiver of the poundage~~
22 ~~requirement in individual cases if, in the board's judgment,~~
23 ~~extenuating circumstances prevent achievement of the poundage~~
24 ~~requirement. The director shall adopt rules governing the operation of~~
25 ~~the review boards and defining "extenuating circumstances."~~

26 ~~(5))~~ This section does not restrict the issuance of commercial
27 crab licenses for areas other than Puget Sound or for species other
28 than dungeness crab.

29 ~~((6) Subject to the restrictions in section 11 of this act,)~~ (5)
30 Dungeness crab--Puget Sound fishery licenses are transferable from one
31 license holder to another.

32 ~~((7))~~ (6) If fewer than two hundred persons are eligible for
33 dungeness crab--Puget Sound fishery licenses, the director may accept
34 applications for new licenses. The director shall determine by random
35 selection the successful applicants for the additional licenses. The
36 number of additional licenses issued shall be sufficient to maintain
37 two hundred licenses in the Puget Sound dungeness crab fishery. The
38 director shall adopt rules governing the application, selection, and
39 issuance procedures for new dungeness crab--Puget Sound fishery

1 licenses, based upon recommendations of a board of review established
2 under RCW 75.30.050.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 75.28.048 and 1993 c 340 s 25 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) A person who holds a commercial fishery license, delivery
6 license, or charter license may operate the vessel designated on the
7 license. A person who is not the license holder may operate the vessel
8 designated on the license only if:

9 (a) The person holds an alternate operator license issued by the
10 director; and

11 (b) The person is designated as an alternate operator on the
12 underlying commercial fishery license, delivery license, or charter
13 license under RCW 75.28.046.

14 (2) Only an individual at least sixteen years of age may hold an
15 alternate operator license.

16 (3) No individual may hold more than one alternate operator
17 license. An individual who holds an alternate operator license may be
18 designated as an alternate operator on an unlimited number of
19 commercial fishery licenses, delivery licenses, and charter licenses
20 under RCW 75.28.046.

21 (4) An individual who holds two Dungeness crab~~Puget Sound~~ fishery
22 licenses or two persons who both hold Dungeness crab~~Puget Sound~~ fishery
23 licenses may operate one vessel, provided that the owner or
24 alternate operator is on the vessel.

25 (5) As used in this section, to "operate" means to control the
26 deployment or removal of fishing gear from state waters while aboard a
27 vessel, to operate a vessel as a charter boat, or to operate a vessel
28 delivering food fish or shellfish taken in offshore waters to a port
29 within the state.

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