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SENATE BILL 6127

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senator Van De Wege

Read first time 01/09/18. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving the management of the state's  
2 halibut fishery; amending RCW 77.32.430; and adding a new section to  
3 chapter 77.12 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 In its role making recommendations for the establishment of  
8 halibut fisheries, through compacts recognized under RCW 77.12.045,  
9 the department must recommend and use all appropriate means to  
10 advocate that recreational halibut fishing season structures provide  
11 fishing opportunities on consecutive days in a given week if multiple  
12 season dates are to be scheduled in that week, as opposed to  
13 scheduling openings on multiple separate days in a given week.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.32.430 and 2011 c 339 s 9 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) Catch record card information is necessary for proper  
17 management of the state's food fish and game fish species and  
18 shellfish resources. Catch record card administration shall be under  
19 rules adopted by the commission. Except as provided in this section,

1 there is no charge for an initial catch record card. Each subsequent  
2 or duplicate catch record card costs eleven 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 seven dollars  
7 and fifty cents when purchased for a personal use saltwater,  
8 combination, or shellfish and seaweed license. The endorsement shall  
9 cost no more than three dollars when purchased for a temporary  
10 combination fishing license authorized under RCW 77.32.470(3)(a).

11 (3) Catch record cards issued with affixed temporary short-term  
12 charter stamp licenses are neither subject to the ten-dollar charge  
13 nor to the Dungeness crab endorsement fee provided for in this  
14 section. Charter boat or guide operators issuing temporary short-term  
15 charter stamp licenses shall affix the stamp to each catch record  
16 card issued before fishing commences. Catch record cards issued with  
17 a temporary short-term charter stamp are valid for one day.

18 (4) A catch record card for halibut is five dollars.

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

22 ~~((+5))~~ (6)(a) The funds received from the sale of catch record  
23 cards, catch card penalty fees, and the Dungeness crab endorsement  
24 must be deposited into the state wildlife account created in RCW  
25 77.12.170.

26 (i)(A) One dollar of the funds received from the sale of each  
27 Dungeness crab endorsement must be used for the removal and disposal  
28 of derelict shellfish gear either directly by the department or under  
29 contract with a third party. The department is required to maintain a  
30 separate accounting of these funds and provide an annual report to  
31 the commission and the legislature by January 1st of every year.

32 (B) The remaining portion of the funds received from the sale of  
33 each Dungeness crab endorsement must be used for education, sampling,  
34 monitoring, and management of catch associated with the Dungeness  
35 crab recreational fisheries.

36 (ii) Funds received from the sale of halibut catch record cards  
37 must be used for monitoring and management of recreational halibut  
38 fisheries.

1           (b) Moneys allocated under this section shall supplement and not  
2 supplant other federal, state, and local funds used for Dungeness  
3 crab recreational fisheries management.

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