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**SENATE BILL 5076**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Muzzall, Chapman, Cortes, Dozier, Lovelett, Shewmake, and Trudeau

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1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a Puget Sound nonspot shrimp pot  
2 fishery license; amending RCW 77.70.005, 77.70.410, 77.70.420, and  
3 77.65.220; and adding a new section to chapter 77.70 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.70.005 and 2011 c 147 s 5 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter and  
8 related rules adopted by the department unless the context clearly  
9 requires otherwise.

10 (1) "Deliver" or "delivery" means arrival at a place or port, and  
11 includes arrivals from offshore waters to waters within the state and  
12 arrivals ashore from offshore waters.

13 (2) "Nonspot shrimp" means a species complex composed of the  
14 following species of pandalid shrimp including Dock shrimp (*Pandalus*  
15 *danae*), coonstripe shrimp (*Pandalus hypsinotus*), humpy shrimp  
16 (*Pandalus goniurus*), ocean pink shrimp (*Pandalus jordani*), pink  
17 shrimp (*Pandalus eous*), and side stripe shrimp  
18 (*Pandalus (Pandalopsis) dispar*).

19 (3) "Pacific sardine" and "pilchard" means the species *Sardinops*  
20 *sagax*.

21 ((+3)) (4) "Spot shrimp" means the species *Pandalus platyceros*.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.70.410 and 2001 c 105 s 1 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) The shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery is a limited entry fishery  
4 and a person shall not fish for spot shrimp or nonspot shrimp taken  
5 from Puget Sound for commercial purposes with shrimp pot gear except  
6 under the provisions of a shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license  
7 issued under RCW 77.65.220.

8       (2) A shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license shall only be issued  
9 to a natural person who held a shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license  
10 during the previous year, except upon the death of the licensee the  
11 license shall be treated as analogous to personal property for  
12 purposes of inheritance and intestacy.

13       (3) No more than two shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery licenses may  
14 be owned by a licensee. The licensee must transfer the second license  
15 into the licensee's name, and designate on the second license the  
16 same vessel as is designated on the first license at the time of the  
17 transfer. Licensees who hold two shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery  
18 licenses may not transfer one of the two licenses for a (~~twelve-~~  
19 ~~month~~) 12-month period beginning on the date the second license is  
20 transferred to the licensee, but the licensee may transfer both  
21 licenses to another natural person. The nontransferability provisions  
22 of this subsection start anew for the receiver of the two licenses.  
23 Licensees who hold two shrimp pot-Puget sound fishery licenses may  
24 fish one and one-half times the maximum number of pots allowed for  
25 Puget Sound shrimp, and may retain and land one and one-half times  
26 the maximum catch limits established for Puget Sound shrimp taken  
27 with shellfish pot gear.

28       (4) Through December 31, 2001, shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery  
29 licenses are transferable only to a current shrimp pot-Puget Sound  
30 fishery licensee, or upon death of the licensee. Beginning January 1,  
31 2002, shrimp pot-Puget Sound commercial fishery licenses are  
32 transferable, except holders of two shrimp pot-Puget Sound licenses  
33 are subject to nontransferability provisions as provided for in this  
34 section.

35       (5) Through December 31, 2001, a shrimp pot-Puget Sound licensee  
36 may designate any natural person as the alternate operator for the  
37 license. Beginning January 1, 2002, a shrimp pot-Puget Sound licensee  
38 may designate only an immediate family member, as defined in RCW  
39 77.12.047, or the immediate family member of a shrimp pot-Puget Sound  
40 licensee's spouse as the alternate operator(~~-~~) with the following

1 exceptions: A licensee with a bona fide medical emergency may  
2 designate a person other than an immediate family member as the  
3 alternate operator for a period not to exceed two years, provided the  
4 licensee documents the medical emergency with letters from two  
5 medical doctors describing the illness or condition that prevents the  
6 licensee from participating in the fishery. The two-year period may  
7 be extended by the director upon recommendation of a department-  
8 appointed Puget Sound shrimp pot advisory board. (~~If the licensee~~  
9 ~~has no immediate family member who is capable of operating the~~  
10 ~~license, the~~) A licensee may ((make a request to)) designate any  
11 natural person as the alternate operator by requesting the Puget  
12 Sound shrimp pot advisory board to designate an alternate operator  
13 who is not an immediate family member, and upon recommendation of the  
14 Puget Sound shrimp pot advisory board, the director may allow  
15 designation of an alternate operator who is not an immediate family  
16 member.

17 **Sec. 3.** RCW 77.70.420 and 2001 c 105 s 2 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) The shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery is a limited entry  
20 fishery and a person shall not fish for nonspot shrimp taken from  
21 Puget Sound for commercial purposes with shrimp trawl gear except  
22 under the provisions of a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license  
23 issued under RCW 77.65.220.

24 (2) A shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license shall only be  
25 issued to a natural person who held a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound  
26 fishery license during the previous licensing year, except upon the  
27 death of the licensee the license shall be treated as analogous to  
28 personal property for purposes of inheritance and intestacy.

29 (3) No more than one shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license may  
30 be owned by a licensee.

31 (4) Through December 31, 2001, shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery  
32 licenses are nontransferable, except upon death of the licensee.  
33 Beginning January 1, 2002, shrimp trawl-Puget Sound licenses are  
34 transferable.

35 (5) Through December 31, 2001, a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound  
36 licensee may designate any natural person as the alternate operator  
37 for the license. Beginning January 1, 2002, a shrimp trawl-Puget  
38 Sound licensee may designate only an immediate family member, as  
39 defined in RCW 77.12.047, or an immediate family member of a shrimp

1 trawl-Puget Sound licensee's spouse as the alternate operator((=))  
2 with the following exceptions: A licensee with a bona fide medical  
3 emergency may designate a person other than an immediate family  
4 member as the alternate operator for a period not to exceed two  
5 years, provided the licensee documents the medical emergency with  
6 letters from two medical doctors describing the illness or condition  
7 that prevents the immediate family member from participating in the  
8 fishery. The two-year period may be extended by the director upon  
9 recommendation of a department-appointed Puget Sound shrimp trawl  
10 advisory board. (~~If the licensee has no immediate family member who~~  
11 ~~is capable of operating the license, the licensee may make a request~~  
12 ~~to~~) A licensee may designate any natural person as the alternate  
13 operator by requesting the Puget Sound shrimp trawl advisory board to  
14 designate an alternate operator who is not an immediate family  
15 member, and upon recommendation of the Puget Sound shrimp trawl  
16 advisory board, the director may allow designation of an alternate  
17 operator who is not an immediate family member.

18 (6) A holder of a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license issued  
19 under RCW 77.65.220 may harvest members of the nonspot shrimp species  
20 within the waters of Puget Sound.

21 (7) No more than one shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license or  
22 nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license may be owned by a  
23 licensee.

24 (8) The combined number of shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery  
25 licenses and nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery licenses issued  
26 under RCW 77.65.220 is limited to five licenses in total.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 77.70  
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) The nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery is a limited entry  
30 fishery and a person may not fish for nonspot shrimp for commercial  
31 purposes with nonspot shrimp pot gear except under the provisions of  
32 a nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license or a shrimp pot-  
33 Puget Sound fishery license issued under RCW 77.65.220.

34 (2) A nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license may  
35 designate only an immediate family member, as defined in RCW  
36 77.12.047, or an immediate family member of a nonspot shrimp pot-  
37 Puget Sound licensee's spouse as the alternate operator with the  
38 following exceptions: A licensee with a bona fide medical emergency  
39 may designate a person other than an immediate family member as the

1 alternate operator for a period not to exceed two years, provided the  
2 licensee documents the medical emergency with letters from two  
3 medical doctors describing the illness or condition that prevents the  
4 immediate family member from participating in the fishery. The two-  
5 year period may be extended by the director upon recommendation of a  
6 department-appointed Puget Sound shrimp trawl advisory board. A  
7 licensee may designate any natural person as the alternate operator  
8 by requesting the Puget Sound shrimp trawl advisory board to  
9 designate an alternate operator who is not an immediate family  
10 member, and upon recommendation of the Puget Sound shrimp trawl  
11 advisory board, the director may allow designation of an alternate  
12 operator who is not an immediate family member.

13 (3) A holder of a nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license  
14 issued under RCW 77.65.220 may harvest members of the nonspot shrimp  
15 species within the waters of Puget Sound.

16 (4) The combined number of shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery  
17 licenses and nonpot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery licenses issued  
18 under RCW 77.65.220 is limited to five licenses in total.

19 (5) A nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license may only be  
20 issued to a natural person who held a nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound  
21 fishery license or a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license issued  
22 during the previous licensing year, except upon the death of the  
23 licensee the license must be treated as analogous to personal  
24 property for purposes of inheritance and intestacy.

25 (6) No more than one shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license or  
26 nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license may be owned by a  
27 licensee.

28 (7) A shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license may be converted  
29 to a limited entry nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license by  
30 any holder of a shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license. A shrimp  
31 trawl-Puget Sound fishery license that is converted to a limited  
32 entry nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license is permanently  
33 retired as a shrimp trawl license.

34 (8) A converted limited entry nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound  
35 fishery license may only fish on nonspot shrimp resources previously  
36 allocated to shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery license holders. If all  
37 shrimp trawl-Puget Sound fishery licenses convert to nonspot shrimp  
38 pot-Puget Sound fishery licenses, the department shall work with  
39 stakeholders to review the allocation of the commercial nonspot  
40 shrimp resources and develop recommendations for future allocations.

1 (9) Nonspot shrimp pot-Puget Sound fishery license holders  
 2 reserve the right to cooperatively modify and design gear with the  
 3 department via a director's issued permit to efficiently and  
 4 economically harvest *Pandalus eous*, *Pandalus jordani*, and *Pandalus*  
 5 *dispar*. The process to modify and design gear is intended to develop  
 6 the fishery to ensure a means to harvest all nonspot shrimp species  
 7 for these license holders.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 77.65.220 and 2018 c 235 s 7 are each amended to  
 9 read as follows:

10 (1) This section establishes commercial fishery licenses required  
 11 for shellfish fisheries and the annual fees for those licenses. The  
 12 director may issue a limited entry commercial fishery license only to  
 13 a person who meets the qualifications established in applicable  
 14 governing sections of this title.

Fishery (Governing section(s))	Annual Fee		Application Fee	Vessel Required?	Limited Entry?
	Resident	Nonresident			
(a) Burrowing shrimp	\$235	\$620	\$105	Yes	No
(b) Crab ring net- Puget Sound	\$180	\$565	\$ 70	Yes	No
(c) Dungeness crab-coastal (RCW 77.70.280)	\$345	\$730	\$105	Yes	Yes
(d) Dungeness crab- Puget Sound (RCW 77.70.110)	\$180	\$565	\$105	Yes	Yes
(e) Emerging commercial fishery (RCW 77.70.160 and 77.65.400)	\$335	\$720	\$105	Determined by rule	Determined by rule
(f) Geoduck (RCW 77.70.220)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 70	Yes	Yes
(g) Hardshell clam mechanical harvester (RCW 77.65.250)	\$580	\$965	\$ 70	Yes	No
(h) <u>Nonspot shrimp</u>	<u>\$335</u>	<u>\$720</u>	<u>\$105</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>

1	<u>pot-Puget Sound</u>					
2	<u>(section 4 of</u>					
3	<u>this act)</u>					
4	<u>(i)</u> Oyster reserve	\$180	\$565	\$ 70	No	No
5	(RCW 77.65.260)					
6	<del>((f))</del> <u>(j)</u> Razor clam	\$180	\$565	\$105	No	No
7	<del>((f))</del> <u>(k)</u> Sea cucumber dive	\$280	\$665	\$105	Yes	Yes
8	(RCW 77.70.190)					
9	<del>((k))</del> <u>(l)</u> Sea urchin dive	\$280	\$665	\$105	Yes	Yes
10	(RCW 77.70.150)					
11	<del>((h))</del> <u>(m)</u> Shellfish dive	\$180	\$565	\$ 70	Yes	No
12	<del>((m))</del> <u>(n)</u> Shellfish pot	\$180	\$565	\$ 70	Yes	No
13	<del>((h))</del> <u>(o)</u> Shrimp pot-	\$335	\$720	\$105	Yes	Yes
14	Puget Sound					
15	(RCW 77.70.410)					
16	<del>((e))</del> <u>(p)</u> Shrimp trawl-	\$335	\$720	\$105	Yes	Yes
17	Puget Sound					
18	(RCW 77.70.420)					
19	<del>((p))</del> <u>(q)</u> Spot shrimp-coastal	\$335	\$720	\$ 70	Yes	Yes
20	<del>((q))</del> <u>(r)</u> Squid	\$335	\$720	\$ 70	Yes	No

21 (2) The director may by rule determine the species of shellfish  
22 that may be taken with the commercial fishery licenses established in  
23 this section, the gear that may be used with the licenses, and the  
24 areas or waters in which the licenses may be used. Where a fishery  
25 license has been established for a particular species, gear,  
26 geographical area, or combination thereof, a more general fishery  
27 license may not be used to take shellfish in that fishery.

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