

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 550

BY REPRESENTATIVE KERNER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SEAFOOD: Provides for reporting, data collection, and information sharing related to domestic and imported seafood

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:31.35.2 and R.S. 56:306.5(B)(3), relative to commercial seafood; to
3 provide for reporting by processors and distributors to the Department of Culture,
4 Recreation and Tourism; to require dealers to submit a detailed accounting of
5 imported seafood to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:31.35.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §31.35.2. Processors and distributors; reporting

10 A. Seafood processors and distributors shall submit a quarterly report to the
11 Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism that contains the amount of seafood
12 they bought and sold in the previous quarter. An accounting by volume of the
13 species of seafood bought and sold and the country of origin, or when possible, the
14 state of origin for domestic seafood bought and sold, shall be included in the report.
15 The department may also request additional information regarding the product or
16 form in which the seafood was bought and sold and relevant dates or other tracking
17 data. The department shall maintain a database of the information contained in these
18 reports.

1 B. The department shall have the authority to implement fines similar to
2 those provided for in R.S. 40:31.35.1 for processors and distributors who fail to
3 submit the required information for two or more consecutive quarters.

4 * * *

5 Section 2. R.S. 56:306.5(B)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

6 §306.5. Records

7 * * *

8 B.

9 * * *

10 (3)(a) Beginning in January 2027, dealers applying for an imported seafood
11 license shall submit a detailed accounting to the department of all imported seafood
12 bought, acquired, or handled by the dealer for sale or resale within the state during
13 the preceding calendar year. The department may specify what information dealers
14 are required to submit regarding the imported seafood including but not limited to
15 an accounting by volume of the species; product or form in which the seafood was
16 received; relevant dates; countries of origin; vendors, distributors, and processors in
17 the supply chain or other tracking data. The department may require the information
18 to be submitted on a form provided to the dealer by the department.

19 (b) The department shall submit a copy or summary of the information
20 collected under this Paragraph to the Department of Culture, Recreation and
21 Tourism.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 550 Original

2025 Regular Session

Kerner

Abstract: Requires commercial seafood processors and distributors to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and requires dealers applying for an imported seafood license to submit a detailed accounting of imported seafood to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Proposed law requires seafood processors and distributors to submit a quarterly report to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism containing the amount of seafood they bought and

sold in the previous quarter including an accounting by volume of the species of seafood bought and sold and the country of origin or the state of origin for domestic seafood.

Proposed law requires the dept. to maintain a database of the information collected and permits the dept. to penalize seafood processors and distributors who fail to submit the required information.

Proposed law provides for dealers applying for an imported seafood license to submit a detailed accounting of the imported seafood they bought or sold the prior year and permits the dept. to specify what information it requires from the dealers.

Proposed law requires the dept. to submit a copy of the information collected from the dealers applying for an imported seafood license to the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

(Adds R.S. 40:31.35.2 and R.S. 56:306.5(B)(3))