

**HB**

**297**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 5/1/95

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 5-2-95

The Finance Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 297

"An Act relating to fees for a commercial fishing vessel license."

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
  - new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
  - technical change
  - new: SCR# \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Steve Klein</i>	✓	<i>2000 EC 1400</i>	✓		
		<i>Donna Dancy</i>	✓		
		<i>Paul G. Kenoff</i>	✓		
Co-Chair: <i>Donna</i>	✓	Co-Chair:			
Co-Chair: <i>Rick Halford</i>	✓	Co-Chair:			

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal	
<i>DF&amp;G</i>	<i>4/25/95</i>	0		<i>544.5 Revenue</i>

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: HB 297  
 (H) Publish Date: 4/28/95

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date: 4/25/95 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game  
 Title: An Act relating to fees for commercial fishing vessel license BRU: Commercial Fisheries (Limited) Entry Commission  
 Sponsor: Rep. Moses Component: Limited Entry Program Administration  
 Requester: Rep. Moses COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0471

Expenditures/Revenues	(Thousands of Dollars)					
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY #
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>	<b>544.5</b>	<b>544.5</b>	<b>544.5</b>	<b>544.5</b>	<b>544.5</b>	<b>544.5</b>

FUND SOURCE	(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY95) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS						
FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)**  
 CFEC is responsible for collecting vessel license fees. HB 297 would change flat rate vessel license fee of \$20 to sliding scale based on length of vessel and vary from \$20 for 25' and under to \$750 for 251' and over. See attachment for revenue increase.

Prepared By: Roger Kolden Phone: 789-6160  
 Agency: Commercial Fisheries (Limited) Entry Commission Date: 4/25/95

Approved by Commissioner: Frank Homan Date: 4/25/95  
 Commercial Fisheries (Limited) Entry Commission

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For further distribution information call the Governor's Legislative Office

**HB 297 Proposed Fee Schedule  
1994 Vessel License File  
Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission**

<b>Length</b>	<b>Number of Vessels</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Proposed Licensing Fee</b>	<b>Revenue Generated</b>
0 to 25 feet	6,189	38.1%	\$20	123,780
> 25 to 50 feet	8,560	52.6%	\$50	428,000
> 50 to 75 feet	744	4.6%	\$100	74,400
> 75 to 150 feet	585	3.6%	\$250	146,250
> 150 to 250 feet	154	0.9%	\$500	77,000
> 251 feet	27	0.2%	\$750	20,250
	<b>16,259</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>\$869,680</b>

**1994 Vessel License  
Revenue Increase**

New Fee Schedule from HB 297	\$869,680
\$20 Vessel License fee	<u>\$325,180</u>
<b>Increased Revenue</b>	<b>\$544,500</b>

Source: Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission

04/25/95

# MEMORANDUM

## STATE OF ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION


**TO:** SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Senator Frank, Co-Chair  
Senator Halford, Co-Chair  
Senator Rieger  
Senator Sharp  
Senator Phillips  
Senator Zharoff  
Senator Donley

**DATE:** May 4, 1995

**FAX NO.:** 789-6170

**TELEPHONE NO.:** 789-6160

**SUBJECT:** HB 297 -- Senator Phillips' Question: What do other states charge for commercial fishing vessel licenses?

**FROM:**  Bruce Twomley, Chairman  
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
ENTRY COMMISSION

Following the Senate Finance Committee's favorable consideration of HB 297 (raising Alaska's commercial fishing vessel license fees), Senator Phillips asked for a rough survey of what other states charge for commercial fishing vessel licenses.

By phone, we collected the following information and shared it with Senator Phillips, who thought that it would be of interest to the Senate Finance Committee as a whole.

At a glance, you can see that varying fees according to size of vessels is common. Additionally, the upper limit in this bill does not appear to sell short a source of revenue for Alaska. Please note that the upper limit (\$750) is consistent with the limit set by the Alaska legislature for captains' licenses in AS 16.43.60.

Finally, although some states charge higher fees for non-residents, in Alaska this issue is now in the hands of the Alaska Supreme Court in the Carlson case. Until the state gets a favorable ruling in Carlson, it would be extremely unwise to add higher fees for non-residents to HB 297 [as the result of such an amendment last year, Governor Hickel was compelled to veto a similar bill].

cc: Representative Carl Moses  
Frank Rue, Commissioner, ADF&G  
David Benton, Deputy Commissioner, ADF&G  
Geron Bruce, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, ADF&G

# MEMORANDUM

## STATE OF ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION

TO: Bruce Twomley  
Chairman  
CFEC  
MS: 0302

DATE: May 3, 1995

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 789-6160

FROM: Kurt Schelle <sup>vs</sup>  
Susan Haymes ~~SA~~  
Ben Muse ~~SA~~  
MS: 0302

SUBJECT: Vessel License Fees  
In Other States

As you requested, this morning we did a quick telephone survey of other coastal states to obtain information on their vessel license laws and fees. The following paragraphs provide a summary of what we learned.

Due to the quickness and brevity of the surveys, this summary information should be viewed with caution. We tried to get our information sources in each state to focus on the licensing of commercial fishing vessels. However, in many cases the licensing laws were complex and vessel licenses were inter-related with other licenses. Thus some of the cursory information below may not be completely accurate.

Moreover, some of these states may see changes in fee schedules with the new fiscal year. We have asked for additional information on licensing from these states. For now, we hope that these summaries are reasonably accurate for your purposes.

### Washington

Contact: Anita Victory (360) 902-3770, option 7  
Customer Service  
Department of Licensing  
P.O. Box 9042  
Olympia, Washington 98507-9042

Purchase of vessel decal:  
first time \$20.50  
annual renewal 12.50

### Oregon

Contact: Karen McGill (503) 229-5410  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Licensing Section  
P.O. Box 59  
Portland, OR 97207

Commercial fishing vessel registration:  
resident \$200/year

non-resident \$400/year

California

Contact Erma (916) 227-2282  
License and Revenue Branch  
California Department of Fish and Game  
3211 S St.  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Commercial fishing vessel registration:  
resident \$200/year  
non-resident \$400/year

Hawaii

Contact: Russell Kagesa, Vessel Registrar (808) 587-1970  
Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources  
333 Queen St., Suite 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vessel license:  
Up to 20 feet \$13/year  
20 feet and up \$25/year

There are no resident non-resident distinctions. These fees apply to other boats as well as commercial fishing boats.

Texas

Contact: Kathy Gil (512) 389-4822  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744

Commercial Fishing Boat License (all boats):  
Resident: \$15  
Non-resident: \$60

There are additional and higher fees for boats engaged in particular fisheries such as the menhaden fishery, the bait-shrimp fishery, Bay-shrimp, Gulf-Shrimp, and Commercial Oysters. Some of these fees are substantial. For example, a Menhaden boat license fee is \$3,500.

Louisiana

Contact: Debbie Thornton (504) 765-2886  
Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commercial Licensing section.

Saltwater Vessel License:  
Resident: \$16  
Non-resident \$61

There are apparently additional license fees to use different gears. A captain's license costs \$56 for residents and \$401 for non-residents.

Mississippi

Contact: Lynn Lawson (601) 364-2042  
Dept of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks  
Licensing Section

Boat Registration Fee

Boat Size Category:  
LE feet \$ 5.00  
16 to 26 feet \$15.00  
GT 26 feet \$30.00

This fee does not vary by resident and non-resident category. There are also commercial fishing licenses and saltwater licenses where the fees do vary depending upon residency. Additionally, there are also tags required for different types of gear.

Alabama

Contact: Janet Hastings (334) 968-7576  
Dept. of Conservation  
Marine Resources Division  
Post Office Drawer 458  
Gulf Shores, AL 36547

Shrimp Vessel License:

Shrimp Vessel Size Class:		(nonresidents)
(residents)		vary by agreement among states
LT 30 feet	\$ 51	based on state of vessel owner.
30-45 feet	\$ 76	
GT 45 feet	\$ 101	

With the exception of the shrimp vessel license, Alabama did not license commercial fishing vessels. There was a crabber's license issued to a fisherman and a dealer's license issued to the person selling commercially caught product.

Florida

Contact: Tabatha Ward (904) 487-3122 Ext 100  
Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Saltwater Licenses and Permits  
Saltwater License Section  
P.O. Box 3070  
Tallahassee, FL 32315-3070

Vessel Saltwater Products License:  
Resident: \$100

Nonresident: \$400  
Aliens: \$600

Licenses are also required for individuals. Additional fees are charged for particular endorsements.

### Georgia

Contact: Debbie Johnson (912) 263-7237  
Dept. of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Div.

#### Commercial Boat License Fees:

##### Trawler:

\$50 for first 18 feet  
\$3 for each additional foot  
\$25 additional for non-resident.

##### Non-Trawlers:

\$5 for first 18 feet  
\$.50 for each additional foot  
\$25 additional for non-resident

### South Carolina

Contact: Dottie Lewis (803) 762-5053  
Department of Natural Resources F(803) 762-5425  
Marine Resources Division  
Commercial License Office  
P.O. Box 12559  
Charleston, S.C. 29422-2559

#### Commercial Power Boat License:

Boat to 18 feet:  
resident \$20  
non-resident varies by state agreements

Boat over 18 feet:  
resident \$25  
non-resident varies by state agreements

There is also a captain's license, a trawler license (vessel), and separate licenses for each type of gear. Non-resident fees for some of these are substantially higher and vary by state depending upon reciprocal agreements.

### North Carolina

Contact: Janice Fulcher (919) 726-7021  
Dept. of Environmental Health and Natural Resources  
Div. of Marine Fisheries  
Licensing Section  
P.O. Box 769  
Morehead City, NC 28557

**Commercial Vessel License Decals:**

**Boat Size Category:**

LE 18 feet	\$1.00 per foot
19-38 feet	\$1.50 per foot
GE 39 feet	\$3.00 per foot

There is a non-resident surcharge to the vessel license that varies by reciprocal agreement with each state but that can be no less than \$200 by law. In addition there are endorsements needed to sell commercial catch which vary progressively by vessel size class.

**Virginia**

Contact: Nancy Jamerson (804) 367-0939  
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
P.O. Box 11528  
Richmond, VA 23230

**Commercial Fishing Boat License Registration Fees (all boats):**

Less than 16 feet -	\$18
16 to 19 feet -	\$22
20 to 40 feet -	\$28
Over 40 feet -	\$36

These fees do not vary by resident and non-resident category.

**Maryland**

Contact: Frances McFaden (410) 974-3365  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Fisheries Division  
580 Taylor Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Maryland does not license commercial fishing vessels, only commercial fishers.

**Delaware**

Contact: Delaware Department of Natural Resources (302) 739-4431  
License Section - Division of Fish & Wildlife  
P.O. Box 1401  
Dover, Delaware 19903

**Commercial Fishing Boat Licensing Fees (by vessel length):**

Class A - less than 16 feet -	\$10
Class 1 - 16 to 25 feet -	\$20
Class 2 - 26 to 39 feet -	\$30
Class 3 - 40 to 64 feet -	\$50
Class 4 - 65 feet or over -	\$60

New Jersey

Contact: Department of Motor Vehicles (609) 292-2121

Commercial Fishing Boat License Registration Fees (all boats):

Less than 16 feet -	\$7
16 to 25 feet -	\$15
26 to 39 feet -	\$27
40 to 64 feet -	\$41
65 feet and over -	\$126

These fees do not vary by resident and non-resident category.

New York

Contact: Office of Parks and Recreation (518) 457-3521  
Nelson Potter  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12238

Commercial Fishing Boat Licensing Fees (by tonnage)

Less than 10 tons	\$20
10 to 19 tons	\$30
20 to 49 tons	\$40
50 to 100 tons	\$50
Over 100 tons	\$100

Connecticut

Contact: Fisheries Division (203) 424-3474  
Licensing and Revenue  
Hartford, CT

Connecticut does not charge a fee for vessel licenses. They charge by the individual only. There is a \$25 lifetime boater certificate fee for all new boaters.

Rhode Island

Contact: Margaret McGrath (401) 277-6647  
Office of Boat Registration & Licensing  
22 Hayes Street  
Providence, RI 02908

Commercial Fishing Boat Licensing Fees (by vessel length):

36 to 40 feet	\$125
41 to 45 feet	\$150
46 to 49 feet	\$200
50 feet and over	\$300

**Massachusetts**

Contact: Division of Marine Fisheries (617) 727-3193  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02202

Commercial Fishing Boat Licensing Fees (by vessel length):

Large Boats, 60-99 ft. \$195  
Small Boats, 0-59 ft. \$130

**Maine**

Contact: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (207) 287-3371  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Commercial Fishing Boat License:  
All Boats: \$4

**Wisconsin**

Contact: Nancy Anderson (608) 266-2621  
Boat Registration and Titling  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 7236  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7236

Vessel registration:

< 16 feet	\$ 6.50/2 years
16 - < 26 feet	8.50/2 years
26 - < 40 feet	10.50/2 years
> 40 feet	12.50/2 years

These fees are for the renewal of the Wisconsin registration on motorized boats. There is no resident-nonresident differential. These fees are the same for commercial fishing and other vessels. All boats over 16 feet must be titled. There is a one-time \$5 fee for this.

**Michigan**

Contact: Denise Yockey (517) 373-2520  
Public Relations Section  
Department of State  
Lansing, Michigan

Vessel registration for commercial fishing vessels:  
\$15 for three years

Vessels over 20 feet must be titled. There is a one-time charge of \$5 for this.

Ohio

Contact: Officer Roseler (419) 621-1402  
Division of Watercraft  
Department of Natural Resources

Vessel registration:  
    < 16 feet                   \$ 7.50/year  
    16 - < 26 feet            10.00/year  
    >= 26 feet                 15.00/year

This only applies to smaller vessels that are not documented by the USCG. Vessel owners would need to present proof of title to get a registration. Title can be had for a one-time \$3.00 charge.

Alaska State Legislature  
Representative Carl E. Moses



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FAX: (907) 485-3445

**INTERIM:**  
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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2173  
PHONE: (907) 258-8167  
FAX: (907) 258-3468

**SPONSOR STATEMENT**

House Bill 297

**An Act relating to fees for commercial fishing vessel licenses.**

House Bill 297 raises the commercial vessel license fee from a flat \$20 to a fee based on the overall length of the vessel. The lengths and corresponding fees are defined on page 2 of the bill. The bill caps the fee at \$750 for vessels over 250 feet in length.

House Bill 297 would raise an additional \$544,500 in revenue to the state. The state's commercial fisheries management and development programs are fast losing ground in budget reductions. We have a multi-billion dollar commercial fishing industry in this state and we need to be doing more to manage and protect our resources in order to maximize their use. For that reason, House Bill 297 includes intent language directing the revenue generated by this legislation be used for commercial fisheries management and development programs. While we have no real authority to dedicate these funds, it is clearly the intent of this legislation to direct the additional revenue toward their intended purpose.