

By Representative Saunders

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to saltwater fisheries;
3 amending s. 370.0605, F.S.; providing a fee for
4 a saltwater fishing license for fishing from
5 any pier attached to the land at the discretion
6 of the owner, operator, or custodian of the
7 pier; providing an exemption from saltwater
8 fishing license requirements; providing an
9 effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
14 370.0605, Florida Statutes, is amended, and a new paragraph
15 (1) is added to subsection (3) of said section, to read:

16 370.0605 Saltwater fishing license required; fees.--

17 (2) Saltwater fishing license fees are as follows:

18 (b)1. For any person who operates any vessel licensed
19 to carry more than 10 customers wherein a fee is paid, either
20 directly or indirectly, for the purpose of taking or
21 attempting to take marine fish, \$800 per year. The license
22 must be kept aboard the vessel at all times.

23 2. For any person who operates any vessel licensed to
24 carry no more than 10 customers, or for any person licensed to
25 operate any vessel carrying 6 or fewer customers, wherein a
26 fee is paid, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of
27 taking or attempting to take marine fish, \$400 per year;
28 provided any person licensed to operate any vessel carrying 6
29 or fewer customers but who operates a vessel carrying 4 or
30 fewer customers, wherein a fee is paid, either directly or

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1 indirectly, for such purposes, \$200 per year. The license must
2 be kept aboard the vessel at all times.

3 3. A person who operates a vessel required to be
4 licensed pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. may
5 obtain a license in his or her own name, and such license
6 shall be transferable and apply to any vessel operated by the
7 purchaser, provided that the purchaser has paid the
8 appropriate license fee.

9 4. For any pier fixed to the land ~~wherein a fee is~~
10 ~~paid directly to the owner, operator, or custodian of the pier~~
11 for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish
12 therefrom, \$500 per year. Owners, operators, or custodians of
13 piers have the discretion to buy the annual \$500 license.
14 Those who elect to purchase such license must have the license
15 available for inspection at all times.

16 5. For a recreational vessel not for hire and for
17 which no fee is paid either directly or indirectly by guests,
18 for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish
19 noncommercially, \$2,000 per year. The license may be purchased
20 at the option of the vessel owner and must be kept aboard the
21 vessel at all times. A log of species taken and the date the
22 species were taken shall be maintained and a copy of the log
23 filed with the Department of Environmental Protection at the
24 time of renewal of the license.

25 (3) A saltwater fishing license is not required for:

26 (1) Any entity organized and existing under the laws
27 of this state conducting marine research that possesses a
28 valid exemption from federal income taxation under s.
29 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code and
30 employs no more than 10 persons.

31 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that the \$500 saltwater license for a pier attached to land may be purchased at the discretion of the owner, operator, or custodian of the pier. Provides that a saltwater fishing license is not required for any entity organized and existing under the laws of this state conducting marine research which organization possesses a valid exemption from federal income taxation.