By the Committee on Water & Resource Management and Representative Saunders $\,$

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to saltwater fisheries; amending s. 370.0605, F.S.; providing a fee for a saltwater fishing license for fishing from any pier attached to the land at the discretion of the owner, operator, or custodian of the pier; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 370.0605, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended, to read:

370.0605 Saltwater fishing license required; fees.--

- (2) Saltwater fishing license fees are as follows:
- (b)1. For any person who operates any vessel licensed to carry more than 10 customers wherein a fee is paid, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish, \$800 per year. The license must be kept aboard the vessel at all times.
- 2. For any person who operates any vessel licensed to carry no more than 10 customers, or for any person licensed to operate any vessel carrying 6 or fewer customers, wherein a fee is paid, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish, \$400 per year; provided any person licensed to operate any vessel carrying 6 or fewer customers but who operates a vessel carrying 4 or fewer customers, wherein a fee is paid, either directly or indirectly, for such purposes, \$200 per year. The license must be kept aboard the vessel at all times.

- 3. A person who operates a vessel required to be licensed pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. may obtain a license in his or her own name, and such license shall be transferable and apply to any vessel operated by the purchaser, provided that the purchaser has paid the appropriate license fee.
- 4. For any pier fixed to the land wherein a fee is paid directly to the owner, operator, or custodian of the pier for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish therefrom, \$500 per year. Owners, operators, or custodians of piers have the discretion to buy the annual \$500 license.

 Those who elect to purchase such license must have the license available for inspection at all times.
- 5. For a recreational vessel not for hire and for which no fee is paid either directly or indirectly by guests, for the purpose of taking or attempting to take marine fish noncommercially, \$2,000 per year. The license may be purchased at the option of the vessel owner and must be kept aboard the vessel at all times. A log of species taken and the date the species were taken shall be maintained and a copy of the log filed with the Department of Environmental Protection at the time of renewal of the license.

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

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.