



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 172

January Session, 2007

House Bill No. 7018

House of Representatives, March 28, 2007

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY, R. of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING IDENTIFICATION OF HARVESTED SHELLFISH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-192k of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Department of Agriculture shall allow the relay of shellfish
4 from shellfish grounds classified as restricted relay to other grounds in
5 accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model
6 Ordinance, as amended from time to time, regarding restricted
7 shellfish relay. The department shall allow the harvest of shellfish from
8 shellfish grounds classified as approved for market on the same day
9 using the same vessel, provided the harvester first harvests the
10 approved market product and lands the product to shore. A harvester
11 shall not begin the relay of shellfish from shellfish grounds classified
12 as restricted relay until all shellfish harvested first from approved
13 market grounds, in market quantities, have been removed from the
14 vessel. Such harvester shall not begin such relay until after the

15 harvester has notified the Department of Environmental Protection of
 16 such relay. The harvester shall provide all information required by the
 17 Department of Agriculture regarding shellfish relays to the
 18 Department of Environmental Protection at the time of such
 19 notification. For the remainder of the day, the harvester shall not
 20 harvest approved market shellfish after beginning such relay.

21 (b) All tag identification information regarding shellfish harvest
 22 locations shall be confidential, provided the harvester of the shellfish
 23 marks the tag with a unique code corresponding to the shellfish
 24 harvest location. [Such harvester shall provide the Department of
 25 Agriculture] The Department of Agriculture shall provide such
 26 harvester and the Department of Environmental Protection with a
 27 written code key detailing the harvest location and corresponding code
 28 to be used by the harvester.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	26-192k

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Department of Agriculture	GF - None	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes a change which would increase efficiency to the shellfish relay program established in PA 06-116 and administered by the Department of Agriculture. It should be noted that the Governor’s recommended budget for FY 2008 includes funds in the amount of \$12,000 through the Capitol Equipment Purchase Fund (CEPF) to purchase laptop computers which are necessary to fully implement this program.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 7018*****AN ACT CONCERNING IDENTIFICATION OF HARVESTED SHELLFISH.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture Department (DOAG) to assign the unique code for tag identification information about shellfish harvest locations (tags are attached to the harvested lots of shellfish).

By law, all tag identification information about shellfish harvest locations is confidential if the shellfish harvester marks the tag with a unique code corresponding to the harvest location. Currently, the harvester provides DOAG and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with (1) a written code key describing his or her harvest location and (2) the corresponding code he or she uses for it. The bill instead requires DOAG to provide the shellfish harvester and DEP the code key describing the harvester's harvest location and the corresponding code he or she must use for it. The location remains confidential under the bill.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

PA 06-116 requires all tag identification information about shellfish harvest locations to be confidential, if the harvester marks the tag with a unique code corresponding to the shellfish harvest location. Under prior law, a non-confidential numbering system had been established for tag identification of shellfish harvest locations from state and local shellfish beds.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/12/2007)