

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2010 SESSION

CHAPTER 484

An Act to amend and reenact § 28.2-302.7 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 28.2-302.1:1, relating to saltwater recreational fishing; consistent with national registry.

[S 668]

Approved April 11, 2010

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 28.2-302.7 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 28.2-302.1:1 as follows:

§ 28.2-302.1:1. Fisherman Identification Program.

The Commission shall establish the Fisherman Identification Program, which shall be consistent with the National Saltwater Angler Registry Program. Those persons who purchase a license under this article shall not be required to register with the Fisherman Identification Program.

§ 28.2-302.7. Recreational boat; reporting of catch.

A. The owner or operator of a recreational boat used for saltwater recreational fishing shall have the option of purchasing a saltwater recreational fishing license which covers his passengers and himself to meet the licensing requirements set forth in § 28.2-302.1. The cost of the license shall be \$30 or as subsequently revised by the Commission pursuant to § 28.2-201 a year for boats; *however, notwithstanding subdivision 4 of § 28.2-201, the Commission may institute a one-time fee increase of no more than \$10 to purchase the license issued pursuant to this section.* If the owner or operator of the boat does not purchase a license which covers all his passengers, individuals shall still purchase a license as required by § 28.2-302.1. Purchasers of licenses pursuant to this section will be issued an individual license, at no additional cost, as required in § 28.2-302.1.

B. Holders of licenses issued pursuant to subsection A shall report catch and other data as are deemed necessary by the Commission for effective fisheries management.

C. All funds collected pursuant to this section shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund, as established by § 28.2-302.3.