

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R11029 SLB-F

S.B. 1246
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Natural Resources
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

H.B. 1858, 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, amended Chapter 47 (Texas Oyster and Shrimp Program) of the Texas Agriculture Code to create the Texas shrimp marketing assistance program (program). The program, administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture, was to be funded at a minimum level of \$250,000 per year through transfers made by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).

Sections 7 and 8 of H.B. 1858 provided revenue sources to fund the program, including a surcharge on certain shrimp related licenses issued by TPWD. According to Sections 9 and 10 of the bill, the surcharge was limited to an increase of up to 10 percent of the license fees established by TPWD effective September 1, 2002, and was to expire on September 1, 2005.

S.B. 1271, 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005, extended the life of the surcharge increase until September 1, 2007, and S.B. 1829, 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, extended the life of the surcharge increase until September 1, 2009.

As proposed, S.B. 1246 extends the cap of a 10 percent increase in fees for certain fish dealer's licenses and certain shrimp licenses until September 1, 2013.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 47.021(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, to provide that this section (License Fees) [relating to a wholesale fish dealer's license, a retail fish dealer's license, and a retail dealer's truck license] expires September 1, 2013, rather than September 1, 2009.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 77.049(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, to provide that this section (License Fees) [relating to a commercial bay shrimp boat license and a commercial gulf shrimp boat license] expires September 1, 2013, rather than September 1, 2009.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or August 31, 2009.