GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

H HOUSE BILL 1892

Short Title: For Hire Blanket CRFL/Commercial Vessel Fee. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Spear and Justice (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Environment and Natural Resources, if favorable, Finance.

April 30, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MODIFY THE FOR HIRE BLANKET COASTAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE FEES FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 113-174.3 reads as rewritten:

"§ 113-174.3. For Hire Blanket CRFL.

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- (a) License. A person who operates a for hire boat may purchase a For Hire Blanket CRFL issued by the Division for the for hire boat. A For Hire Blanket CRFL authorizes all individuals on the for hire boat who do not hold a license issued under this Article or Article 25A of this Chapter to engage in recreational fishing in coastal fishing waters that are not joint fishing waters. A For Hire Blanket CRFL does not authorize individuals to engage in recreational fishing in joint fishing waters or inland fishing waters. A For Hire Blanket CRFL is valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance. The fee for a For Hire Blanket CRFL is:
 - (1) Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for a vessel that will carry six or fewer passengers.
 - (2) Three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) for a vessel that will carry greater than six passengers.
 - (3) Fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a commercial fishing vessel licensed under Article 14A of this Chapter that will carry six or fewer passengers.
 - (4) Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for a commercial fishing vessel licensed under Article 14A of this Chapter that will carry greater than six passengers.
- (b) Implementation. Except as provided in this section and G.S. 113-174.2(d), each individual on board a for hire boat engaged in recreational fishing, other than crew members who do not engage in recreational fishing, must hold a license issued under this Article or Article 25A of this Chapter. An owner, operator, or crew member of a for hire boat is not responsible for the licensure of a customer fishing from the boat."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective January 1, 2008.