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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Introduced By: Senators Sheehan, Sosnowski, Felag, Cote, and E O'Neill

Date Introduced: June 01, 2011

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 20-4-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 20-4 entitled "Commercial
2 Fisheries" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **20-4-1. Commercial fishing.** -- No person shall engage in the taking for sale by any
4 manner, method, or contrivance of any marine finfish, shellfish, crustacean, or other invertebrate;
5 and no vessel, boat, trap, seine, or other fishing gear shall be used in the taking for sale or landing
6 of any marine finfish, shellfish, crustacean, or other invertebrate unless a license or permit has
7 been obtained as provided in this title. Provided, however, that for all commercial fisheries except
8 shellfish, any number of unlicensed crews may assist in direct commercial harvest operations
9 regardless of the manner, method or contrivance employed, as long as said crew is/are operating
10 under the direct supervision of a properly licensed individual in command of a commercially
11 declared vessel. With respect to commercial shellfish operations, an unlicensed crew may only
12 assist with culling activities and other indirect harvest operations while under the direct
13 supervision of a properly licensed individual in command of a commercially declared vessel.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

1 This act would provide that, except for shellfish, an unlicensed crew may assist in direct
2 commercial operations for commercial fisheries as long as the crew is supervised by a properly
3 licensed individual in command of a commercially declared vessel. This act would further
4 provide that with respect to shellfish operations, an unlicensed crew may only assist with
5 supervised culling and indirect harvest operations.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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