

FILED MAR 13 '03

SENATE FILE 373
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1031)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the regulation of vessels by increasing
2 certain boat registration fees, and pilot and engineer
3 licensing fees, providing for increased inspections of
4 registered boats, and appropriating the moneys collected to
5 the state fish and game protection fund.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 373

1 Section 1. Section 462A.5, subsection 3, Code 2003, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. The registration fees for vessels subject to this
4 chapter are as follows:

5 a. For vessels of any length without motor or sail, five
6 eight dollars.

7 b. For motorboats or sailboats less than twelve sixteen
8 feet in length, eight fifteen dollars.

9 c. For motorboats or sailboats twelve sixteen feet or
10 more, but less than fifteen twenty-six feet in length, ten
11 twenty-five dollars.

12 ~~d. For motorboats or sailboats fifteen feet or more, but~~
13 ~~less than eighteen feet in length, twelve dollars.~~

14 ~~e. For motorboats or sailboats eighteen feet or more, but~~
15 ~~less than twenty-five feet in length, eighteen dollars.~~

16 ~~f.~~ d. For motorboats or sailboats twenty-five twenty-six
17 feet in length or more, twenty-eight thirty-five dollars.

18 Every registration certificate and number issued becomes
19 delinquent at midnight April 30 of odd-numbered years unless
20 terminated or discontinued in accordance with this chapter.
21 After January 1 in odd-numbered years, an unregistered vessel
22 and a renewal of registration may be registered for the two-
23 year registration period beginning May 1 of that year. After
24 January 1 in even-numbered years, unregistered vessels may be
25 registered for the remainder of the current registration
26 period at fifty percent of the appropriate registration fee.

27 If a timely application for renewal is made, the applicant
28 shall receive the same registration number allocated to the
29 applicant for the previous registration period. If the
30 application for registration for the biennium is not made
31 before May 1 of each odd-numbered year, the applicant shall be
32 charged a penalty of five dollars.

33 Sec. 2. Section 462A.20, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
34 2003, is amended to read as follows:

35 Any person having A vessel, either for hire or offered for

1 fees for the licensing of pilots and engineers shall be
2 forwarded by the commission to the treasurer of state, who
3 shall place the money in the state fish and game protection
4 fund. The money so collected is appropriated to the
5 commission solely for the administration and enforcement of
6 navigation laws and water safety.

7 Engineer's and pilot's licenses shall be in effect only for
8 the calendar year in which such license is issued.

9 Sec. 4. Section 462A.52, Code 2003, is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 462A.52 FEES REMITTED TO COMMISSION.

12 Within ten days after the end of each month, a county
13 recorder shall remit to the commission all fees collected by
14 the recorder during the previous month. Before May 10 in odd-
15 numbered years, a county recorder shall remit to the
16 commission all unused license blanks for the previous
17 biennium. All fees collected for the registration of vessels
18 shall be forwarded by the commission to the treasurer of the
19 state, who shall place the money in ~~a-special-conservation~~ the
20 state fish and game protection fund. The money so collected
21 is appropriated to the commission solely for the
22 administration and enforcement of navigation laws and water
23 safety.

24 Sec. 5. Section 462A.66, Code 2003, is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 462A.66 INSPECTION AUTHORITY.

27 An officer of the commission or any peace officer may stop
28 and inspect a vessel being launched, being operated, or being
29 moored on the waters of this state under the jurisdiction of
30 the commission to determine whether the vessel is properly
31 registered, numbered, and equipped as provided under this
32 chapter and rules of the commission. An officer may board a
33 vessel in the course of an inspection if the operator is
34 unable to supply visual evidence that the vessel is properly
35 registered and equipped as required by this chapter and rules

1 hire, upon any waters of this state under the jurisdiction of
2 the commission, ~~any-vessel,-either-for-hire-or-offered-for~~
3 ~~hire,-must-have-such-vessel-and-all-its-appurtenances-annually~~
4 may be inspected at any time by representatives of the
5 commission or by any peace officer.

6 Sec. 3. Section 462A.22, Code 2003, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 462A.22 ENGINEER OR PILOT LICENSE AND FEES.

9 No A vessel shall not be operated for hire by a pilot or
10 engineer upon the waters of this state under the jurisdiction
11 of the commission unless the pilot or engineer first obtains
12 an engineer's or pilot's license. A pilot's license is
13 required for any person who has charge of the steering or
14 directing of the vessel's course or who does the steering or
15 directs the vessel's course. An engineer's license is
16 required for all operators who have charge of or operate the
17 equipment by which the boat is propelled. If one person acts
18 in a dual or alternate capacity, the person shall first obtain
19 both an engineer's and pilot's license.

20 Any person desiring a pilot's or engineer's license shall
21 file an application with the commission upon forms prepared
22 and furnished by the commission. Such license may be issued
23 by the commission only upon recommendation of an officer duly
24 authorized by the commission. Before the officer recommends
25 such a license, the officer shall investigate the competency
26 of the applicant, the applicant's acquaintance with and
27 experience in boat work, habits as to sobriety, mental and
28 physical qualifications for the work, acquaintance with the
29 waters for which application to operate upon is made,
30 familiarity with the laws and regulations pertaining to the
31 vessel operation and all other pertinent matters. Such
32 license shall not be issued to anyone under eighteen years of
33 age.

34 The annual fee for a pilot's license is ten dollars. The
35 annual fee for an engineer's license is twenty dollars. All

1 of the commission. The inspection shall not include an
2 inspection of an area that is not essential to determine
3 compliance with the provisions of this chapter and rules of
4 the commission.

5 Sec. 6. Section 462A.21, Code 2003, is repealed.

6 Sec. 7. Notwithstanding sections 462A.22 and 462A.52, any
7 revenues resulting from any increase in fees approved in this
8 Act shall be available for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
9 2003, to the commission only for the enforcement of navigation
10 laws and water safety upon the inland waters of this state.

11 EXPLANATION

12 This bill relates to vessel regulation, increases the
13 registration fees for certain vessels subject to Iowa's water
14 navigation regulations, and abolishes the separate inspection
15 fees. The bill also provides that a vessel, either for hire
16 or offered for hire, is subject to inspection at any time by
17 representatives of the natural resource commission or by any
18 peace officer rather than just annually.

19 The bill increases the annual fees for a pilot's or
20 engineer's license to operate a vessel for hire.

21 The bill provides that all fees collected by the natural
22 resource commission, including the vessel registration fees
23 and the pilot's and engineer's license fees, shall be
24 forwarded by the commission to the treasurer of state, shall
25 be placed in the state fish and game protection fund, and are
26 appropriated by the general assembly to the commission solely
27 for the administration and enforcement of navigation laws and
28 water safety.

29 The bill repeals Code section 462A.21, which relates to
30 inspections and annual fees for inspections of vessels
31 operated for hire.

32 The bill provides that notwithstanding Code sections
33 462A.22 and 462A.52, any revenues resulting from the increase
34 in fees contained in the bill shall be available for the
35 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, to the natural resource

1 commission only for the enforcement of navigation laws and
2 water safety upon the internal waters of the state.

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SF 373 – Boat Registration Fees (LSB 1357 SV)
Analyst: Debra Kozel (Phone: (515) 281-6767) (deb.kozel@legis.state.ia.us)
Fiscal Note Version — New

1 **Description**

1 Senate File 373 makes the following changes impacting the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund:

- 1 • Increases the biennial registration fee for boats with no motor from \$5.00 to \$8.00.
- 1 • Creates a biennial \$15.00 registration fee for boats with a motor that are less than 16 feet in length.
- 1 • Creates a biennial \$25.00 registration fee for boats with a motor that are 16 feet but less than 26 feet in length.
- 1 • Creates a biennial \$35.00 registration fee for boats with a motor that are 26 feet or more.
- 1 • Establishes an annual \$10.00 fee for a boat pilot license and an annual \$20.00 fee for a boat engineer.
- 1 • Allows a peace officer or representative of the Department of Natural Resources to inspect boat for hire or offered for hire at any time.

2 **Assumptions**

- 2 1. Biennial gross receipts from boat registration fee increases to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund are estimated to increase \$1.6 million for FY 2004 and each even-numbered year thereafter.
- 2 2. Annual gross receipts from the sale of 90 boat pilot and boat engineer licenses are estimated to be \$2,700.

2 **Fiscal Impact**

2 The estimated fiscal impact of SF 373 is an increase in revenue of \$1.6 million to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund for FY 2004 and even-numbered years thereafter. The estimated annual increase for boat pilot and boat engineer licenses, to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, is expected to be \$2,400.

2 **Source**

3 Department of Natural Resources

/s/ Dennis C Prouty

March 18, 2003

SENATE FILE 373

S-3061

- 1 Amend Senate File 373 as follows:
2 1. Page 3, by inserting after line 23 the
3 following:
4 "Sec. ____ Section 462A.53, Code 2003, is amended
5 to read as follows:
6 462A.53 AMOUNT OF WRITING FEES.
7 A writing fee of ~~one dollar~~ two dollars for each
8 transaction shall be collected by the county recorder.
9 If two or more functions are transacted for the same
10 vessel at one time, the writing fee is limited to ~~one~~
11 dollar two dollars."
12 2. By renumbering as necessary.

By DENNIS H. BLACK

S-3061 FILED MARCH 18, 2003

SENATE FILE 373

S-3091

- 1 Amend Senate File 373 as follows:
2 1. Page 1, line 17, by inserting after the word
3 "more" the following: ", but less than one hundred
4 fifty feet in length".
5 2. Page 1, by inserting after line 17, the
6 following:
7 "e. For motorboats or sailboats one hundred fifty
8 feet in length or more, ten thousand dollars."
9 3. By renumbering as necessary.

By BOB BRUNKHORST

S-3091 FILED MARCH 25, 2003

Johnson
Wieck
Kibbie

SSB 1031

SENATE/HOUSE FILE Natural Resources
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES BILL)

Passed By
SF/HF 373

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
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18 in a dual or alternate capacity, the person shall first obtain
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29 moored on the waters of this state under the jurisdiction of
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31 registered, numbered, and equipped as provided under this
32 chapter and rules of the commission. An officer may board a
33 vessel in the course of an inspection if the operator is
34 unable to supply visual evidence that the vessel is properly
35 registered and equipped as required by this chapter and rules

1 of the commission. The inspection shall not include an
2 inspection of an area that is not essential to determine
3 compliance with the provisions of this chapter and rules of
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7 This bill relates to vessel regulation, increases the
8 registration fees for certain vessels subject to Iowa's water
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Fields of Opportunities

STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
JEFFREY R. VONK, DIRECTOR

Memorandum

To: General Assembly

From: Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Date: January 10, 2003

Re: Boat Inspection and Registration Regulations

The purpose of the proposed bill is to reduce the number of categories for boat registration, increase fees, to place the registration fees in the fish and game protection fund, increase pilot and engineer's license fees, and abolish the inspection of commercial vessels.

Boat registration fees were last increased during the 1984 Legislative session. Increased revenue generated from this bill will be used to expand boating law enforcement with additional equipment and part-time employees and to continue to fund the program in future years. Currently the boat registration fees are deposited in the conservation fund and then transferred to the fish and game protection fund. This change would automatically deposit the funds in the fish and game protection fund.

This bill also eliminates the mandated annual inspection, and associated fee, required of all commercial vessels (vessels for hire such as rentals and gambling boats). This change also extends current inspection authority by department representatives to any peace officer.

BOAT REGISTRATION FEES as of September 2002

This table reflects current fees. Amounts inside "()" allow for an annual comparison. Strikethrough fees reflective of January 2000 fees.

IOWA (current)	Registration Period	All Vessels w/o motor or sail	Motorboats & Sailboats < 12 ft.	Motorboats & Sailboats 12 < 15 ft.	Motorboats & Sailboats 15 < 18 ft.	Motorboats & Sailboats 18 < 25 ft.	Motorboats & Sailboats 25 ft. or more			
	2 years	\$5 (2.50/yr)	\$8 (4.00/yr)	\$10 (5.00/yr)	\$12 (6.00/yr)	\$18 (9.00/yr)	\$28 (14.00/yr)			
IOWA (proposed)	Registration Period	Vessels any length w/o motor or sail	Motorboats & Sailboats < 16 ft.		Motorboats & Sailboats 16 ft. < 26 ft.		Motorboats & Sailboats 26 ft. or more			
	2 years	\$8 (4.00/yr)	\$15 (7.50/yr)		\$25 (12.50/yr)		\$35 (17.50/yr)			
NEBRASKA (current)	Registration Period	Vessels < 16 ft.			Vessels 16 < 26 ft.		Vessels 26 < 40 ft.		Vessels 40 ft. or more	
	3 years	\$48.75 23.00 (7.66/yr)			\$35.50 43.00 (14.33/yr)		\$52.25 63.00 (21.00/yr)		\$86.00 103.00 (34.33/yr)	
WISCONSIN (current)	Registration Period	Vessels < 16 ft.			Vessels 16 < 26 ft.		Vessels 26 < 40 ft.		Vessels 40 ft. or more	
	2 3 years	\$41.00 16.50 (5.50/yr)			\$46.00 29.00 (9.66/yr)		\$30.00 50.00 (16.66/yr)		\$50.00 80.00 (26.66/yr)	
MISSOURI (current) (Non-motor... no reg. required)	Registration Period	Vessels < 16 ft.			Vessels 16 < 26 ft.		Vessels 26 < 40 ft.		Vessels 40 ft. or more	
	3 years	\$10 (3.33/yr)			\$20 (6.66/yr)		\$30 (10.00/yr)		\$40 (13.33/yr)	
KANSAS (current)	Registration Period	Vessels < 16 ft.			Vessels 16 ft. or more					
	3 years	\$45.50 20.50 (6.83/yr)			\$48.50 25.50 (8.50/yr)					
MINNESOTA (current)	Registration Period	Canoes, Kayaks, Sailboats, Paddleboats, Rowing Shells up to & including 19 ft. (over 19 ft. same as Pleasure craft)	Pleasure craft < 19 ft.		Pleasure craft 17 < 19 ft.	Pleasure craft 19 < 26 ft.	Pleasure craft 26 < 40 ft.		Pleasure craft 40 ft. or more	Any watercraft for hire & more than 19 ft.
	3 years		\$7 (2.33/yr)	\$12 (4.00/yr)		18.00 (6.00/yr)	\$20.00 30.00 (10.00/yr)	\$30.00 45.00 (15.00/yr)		\$40.00 60.00 (20.00/yr)
SOUTH DAKOTA (current)	Registration Period	Non-motorized Vessels over 12 ft. and Vessels propelled only by electric motors	Motorboats < 19 ft.			Motorboats 19 ft. or more				
	1 or 3 years		\$10 or \$20 (6.66/yr)	\$15 or \$40 (13.33/yr)			\$30 or \$80 (26.66/yr)			