



SENATE BILL 160: Enhance Safety & Commerce for Ports/Inlets

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Finance	Date:	May 13, 2015
Introduced by:	Sens. Lee, Brown, Cook	Prepared by:	Jeff Hudson
Analysis of:	PCS to Third Edition S160-CSSBxf-4		Committee Counsel

PART VII. ESTABLISH COASTAL WATERWAYS USER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER REQUIREMENT

SECTION 7.1. would establish a Coastal Waterways User Identification Number for:

- Vessels that are required to be numbered by the Wildlife Resources Commission, that are 24 feet or more in length, and that are operated in the coastal fishing waters of the State.
- Vessels that are numbered under the federal numbering system or the numbering system of another state, that are 24 feet or more in length, and that are used to engage in commercial or recreational fishing in the coastal fishing waters of the State.

The fee for a Coastal Waterways User Identification Number is calculated by rounding down the length of the vessel to the nearest foot, dividing this length by eight, and multiplying the result by the length of the vessel rounded down to the nearest foot. The annual fee for a Coastal Waterways User Identification Number may not exceed the fee for a one hundred foot vessel, which would be \$1,250.00. The funds generated by the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number will be credited to the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Lake Maintenance Fund. A person who fails to obtain and display a Coastal Waterways User Identification Number is subject to a fine equal to the amount of the fee for the applicable Coastal Waterways User Identification Number. Entities that sell the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number will receive a surcharge of \$3.50 per Coastal Waterways User Identification Number.

SECTION 7.2. would provide the following related to the implementation of the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number:

- The Wildlife Resources Commission will disseminate information regarding the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number to the public in order to inform affected vessel owners of the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number requirements.
- Of the funds to be transferred to the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel and Lake Dredging Fund, the Wildlife Resources Commission may retain up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to implement the Coastal Waterways User Identification Number.
- The Coastal Waterways User Identification Number requirements will become effective January 1, 2016.

O. Walker Reagan
Director



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