

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 28.2-241 of the Code of Virginia, relating to sale, trade and barter of*
3 *minnows.*

4 [H 1446]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 28.2-241 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 28.2-241. Registration of commercial fishermen required; exemption; penalty.

9 A. On and after January 1, 1993, holders of gear licenses, except those issued pursuant to § 28.2-402,
10 issued January 1, 1992, through December 31, 1992, shall register as commercial fishermen as provided
11 for in regulation.

12 B. [Repealed.]

13 C. On and after January 1, 1993, fishermen not registered as commercial fishermen but who desire to
14 sell their catch shall apply to the Commission for registration as commercial fishermen. The effective
15 date of status as a commercial fisherman shall be two years from the date the application is approved by
16 the Commission. A person whose registration as a commercial fisherman is not effective shall not sell,
17 trade or barter his catch or give his catch to another in order that it may be sold, traded or bartered.

18 D. For purposes of this section and §§ 28.2-242, 28.2-243 and 28.2-244, "commercial fisherman"
19 means any person who fishes in tidal waters using any gear and who sells, trades or barter his catch or
20 gives his catch to another in order that it may be sold, traded or bartered. *The Commission shall*
21 *provide, by regulation, for exemptions from the definition of "commercial fisherman" those persons who*
22 *independently sell, trade or barter minnows and who are not part of, hired by, or engaged in a*
23 *continuing business enterprise as may be defined by the Commission. Such regulation may include, but*
24 *is not limited to, limits on the quantity of minnows that may be sold, traded or bartered by a person*
25 *that may be exempted from the definition of commercial fisherman.*

26 E. The cost of registration as a commercial fisherman shall be \$150 annually, due no later than the
27 effective date of registration; however, the cost of registration for a person seventy years of age or older
28 shall be seventy-five dollars. All fees collected from the registration of commercial fishermen shall be
29 deposited in the state treasury and credited to the Marine Fishing Improvement Fund as established in
30 § 28.2-208.

31 F. Registrations of commercial fishermen shall not be transferable.

32 G. Whenever a court finds that a defendant has violated any of the provisions of this section, the
33 court shall assess a civil penalty of \$500. All civil penalties assessed pursuant to this section shall be
34 paid into the Marine Fishing Improvement Fund as established in § 28.2-208.

35 H. Only commercial fishermen with valid registrations may purchase licenses pursuant to
36 §§ 28.2-301, 28.2-501 and 28.2-702.

37 I. Persons who have obtained a recreational gear license pursuant to § 28.2-226.1 or § 28.2-302.1 are
38 exempt from the provisions of this section.

ENROLLED

HB1446ER