

2026 -- H 8133

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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A N A C T

RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- LICENSING

Introduced By: Representative Joseph J. Solomon

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 20-2-44 of the General Laws in Chapter 20-2 entitled "Licensing" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **20-2-44. Shellfish transplant program.**

4 (a) In addition to any appropriation made pursuant to § 20-2-28.2, the general assembly
5 shall appropriate from the general fund to the division of marine fisheries the amount it deems
6 necessary for the purpose of maintaining a shellfish transplant program for the fiscal year ending
7 June 30, 2000, and thereafter, the division of marine fisheries shall develop a sustainable shellfish
8 management plan.

9 (b) On and after July 1, 2026, there shall be assessed and collected against all wastewater
10 treatment facilities, as defined in § 42-17.4-4, a fee of one cent (\$0.01) per every ten thousand
11 (10,000) gallons of wastewater treatment facility effluent discharge from that facility. The fees
12 collected under this section shall be used to support the shellfish transplant program. Provided, the
13 provisions of this subsection shall apply both to public and privately-owned wastewater treatment
14 facilities.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would provide that on and after July 1, 2026, there would be assessed and collected
2 a fee of one cent (\$0.01) per every ten thousand (10,000) gallons of wastewater treatment facility
3 effluent discharge. The fees collected under this section shall be used to support the shellfish
4 transplant program.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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