

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 602**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

9        **SECTION 1.**    (1)    For purposes of this section:

10                    (a)    "Seafood" means shrimp, crawfish, saltwater  
11    finfish, crustaceans, molluscan shellfish and other forms of  
12    saltwater aquatic animal life where such aquatic animal life is  
13    intended for human consumption.    The term seafood shall not  
14    include catfish as defined in Section 69-7-605.

15                    (b)    "Label" means a display of written, printed or  
16    graphic matter upon or affixed to the container in which a seafood  
17    product is offered for direct retail sale.



18           (2)   (a)   There is hereby established the Mississippi Seafood  
19   Labeling Task Force to study and make recommendations to the  
20   Legislature and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and  
21   the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce regarding  
22   the regulation of seafood labeling and seafood testing, for the  
23   maximization of benefit from that industry for the State of  
24   Mississippi and its citizens.

25                   (b)   The Task Force shall be composed as follows:

26                           (i)   The Governor or his designee;

27                           (ii)   The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
28   Department of Marine Resources or his designee;

29                           (iii)   The Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce  
30   or his designee;

31                           (iv)   The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
32   Gaming Commission or his designee;

33                           (v)   A representative of the Mississippi Restaurant  
34   Association;

35                           (vi)   The Director of the Division of Tourism or  
36   his designee.

37                           (viii)   A person with a valid commercial  
38   fisherman's license appointed by the Governor; and

39                           (ix)   A person who is an active shrimp or seafood  
40   processor appointed by the Governor.

41                   (c)   The Task Force shall meet upon the call of the  
42   Executive Director of the Department of Marine Resources not later



43 than 30 days after passage of this act, and organize for business  
44 by electing a Chairman and Secretary, and adopting necessary  
45 bylaws. The Department of Marine Resources shall provide  
46 necessary administrative and clerical support for the Task Force.  
47 The Task Force may hold meetings and hold public hearings as  
48 necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

49 (d) The Task Force is hereby charged with  
50 responsibility for the following:

51 (i) To study and make recommendations with respect  
52 to seafood labeling laws and genetic seafood testing;

53 (ii) To study and make recommendations with  
54 respect to domestic and imported seafood;

55 (iii) To study and make recommendations with  
56 respect to the seafood industry and seafood production;

57 (iv) To study and make recommendations with  
58 respect to markets and marketing strategies for the development  
59 and expansion of markets for seafood harvested from Mississippi  
60 waters; and

61 (v) To perform any acts deemed necessary and  
62 proper to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

63 (e) The activities of the Mississippi Seafood Task  
64 Force shall be funded through any funds made available by  
65 appropriation of the Legislature.

66 (f) The Task Force shall develop and make a report with  
67 recommendations for necessary legislation to the Governor,



68 Legislature and affected state agencies on or before January 1,  
69 2027, and on the completion of its report, the Task Force shall  
70 stand dissolved.

71       **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
72 and after July 1, 2025.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1       AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND EMPOWER THE MISSISSIPPI SEAFOOD  
2 LABELING TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING  
3 SEAFOOD LABELING, SEAFOOD MARKETING AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTION IN THE  
4 WATERS OF MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPOSITION OF THE TASK  
5 FORCE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TASK FORCE; TO  
6 PROVIDE FOR A REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS; AND FOR RELATED  
7 PURPOSES.

