



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Commerce

AREA REDEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ALASKA ICE AND COLD-STORAGE FIRM AWARDED LOAN FOR PLANT EXPANSION:

A \$260,000 industrial loan application from the Alaska Ice and Storage, Inc., Kodiak, Alaska, has been approved by the Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA) of the Department of Commerce. The loan is to help finance a \$400,000 plant expansion program for storing and processing fish. In the past, Alaska Ice and Storage, Inc., has handled limited quantities of salmon and halibut during the fishing season. The expanded facilities will make it possible for the firm to almost double its capacity and in addition to salmon and halibut will be able to handle king and Dungeness crab and shrimp. With the new facilities, the operation will be on a more or less year-round basis.

The expanded operation will provide employment for about 120 people in Kodiak. It is estimated that at least 60 additional jobs will be created in the allied trades and services that support the fishing industry of this officially designated redevelopment area. This investment of Federal funds is expected to make a real contribution to the local Kodiak economy, as well as that of Alaska.



Department of Health, Education and Welfare

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

PERMISSION TO WEIGH PACKAGED FROZEN FISH FILLETS AT TIME OF SALE PROPOSED:

In a "statement of general policy or interpretation," the U. S. Food and Drug Administration announced on November 28, 1962 (Federal

Register, December 4, 1962), the cancellation of the exemption to producers of individually-or-consumer-wrapped frozen fish fillets to omit the net-weight statement on wrappers of fish fillets that are prepackaged in cellophane or similar films. Since April 1940, the producers of individually wrapped frozen fillets have been permitted to substitute statements or instructions on the label with the following: "that the article is to be weighed and marked at time of retail sale." On April 4, 1963 (Federal Register, April 10, 1963), the Food and Drug Administration after considering additional data supplied by the fishing industry on past and current trade practices in the marketing of certain types of frozen fish fillets, announced a proposal to continue the exemption from the net weight labeling law. The announcement dated April 10, 1963, as it appeared in the April 10, 1963 Federal Register follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Food and Drug Administration

[21 CFR Part 1]

WRAPPED FISH FILLETS

Proposed Exemption From Certain Labeling Requirements

Following publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of December 4, 1962 (27 F.R. 11943), of the policy statement § 3.204 *Net weight statement on foods in package form that may be weighed at time of retail sale*, representatives of the fishery industry supplied additional data about past and current trade practices in the marketing of certain types of frozen fish fillets. Acting on this and other information, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs has concluded that a special exempting provision should be added to the regulations implementing section 405 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Therefore, the Commissioner, under the authority provided in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (secs. 403 (e)(2), 405, 701(a), 52 Stat. 1046 as amended, 1049, 1055; 21 U.S.C. 343(e)(2), 345, 371(a)), and delegated to him by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare (25 F.R. 8625), proposes to amend § 1.13 *Food; exemptions from labeling requirements* by adding a new paragraph (g), as follows:

§ 1.13 Food; exemptions from labeling requirements.

(g) Wrapped fish fillets of nonuniform weight intended to be unpacked and marked with the correct net weight at the point of retail sale at an establishment other than where originally packed, shall be exempt from the requirements of section 403(e)(2) of the act during introduction and movement in interstate commerce and while held for sale prior to weighing and marking, if the outside container bears a label declaration of the total net weight, the individual packages bear a conspicuous statement "To be weighed at time of sale," and it is the practice in the retail establishment to weigh and mark the individual packages with a net-weight statement at the time of sale. The act of delivering the wrapped fish fillets at time of retail sale without the correct net-weight statement shall be deemed an act which results in the product being misbranded while held for sale.

Any interested person may, within 30 days from the publication of this notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, submit written views and comments on this proposal. Such comments should be submitted in triplicate and addressed to the Hearing Clerk, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Room 5440, 330 Independence Avenue SW., Washington 25, D.C.

Dated: April 4, 1963.

GEO. P. LARRICK,
Commissioner of Food and Drugs.



Interstate Commerce Commission

HEARINGS ON MOTOR CARRIER RATES FOR FISH AND SHELLFISH SCHEDULED:

The request of the railroads, the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) has begun an investigation of the motor carriers' rate structure for fish and shellfish and certain other formerly exempt commodities. The investigation is not limited to grandfather rates; it applies to all common carrier rates. It appears that some interests wish to have all motor carrier rates fixed at a minimum level based on the operating costs of large general commodity haulers.

The first in a series of country-wide hearings on ICC Docket 32912--Rates on Formerly Exempt Commodities--was held in Washington, D. C., March 11-14, 1963, to introduce the ICC's cost study and to hear the Eastern motor carriers' defense of their rates. The next hearing was tentatively scheduled for April 17 in Atlanta, Ga., for evidence on Southern regional costs and rates. Additional hearings were planned in Kansas City, Kans.,

on April 22, and Los Angeles, Calif., on April 29. Hearings were also planned in San Francisco, Calif., and Portland, Oreg., after which a final hearing will be held in Washington, D. C.



Department of Labor

WAGE AND HOUR AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS DIVISIONS

NEW MINIMUM WAGE RATES FOR TUNA CANNERY WORKS IN PUERTO RICO ANNOUNCED:

A new minimum wage rate of \$1.25 per hour for the tuna-canning industry in Puerto Rico, will become effective November 3, 1963. The new rate was announced on March 23, 1963, by the U. S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions. The current minimum wage for tuna cannery workers in Puerto Rico, is \$1.15 per hour.

The new rate reflects the 10-percent automatic increase for industries in Puerto Rico, prescribed by the 1961 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act. The amendments provide that employers in Puerto Rico can apply to the Secretary of Labor for appointment of a review committee to recommend minimum wage rates to be paid in lieu of the rates resulting from the 10-percent statutory increase. Such applications must be filed with the Secretary of Labor between July 6, and September 4, 1963.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, February 1963, p. 94, October 1961, p. 86, and August 1961, p. 98.



White House

ACCEPTS RECOMMENDATION TO PERMIT JAPANESE TO FISH FOR HALIBUT IN EASTERN BERING SEA:

The President on March 23, 1963, took action in accordance with the North Pacific Fisheries Act of 1954, to accept the recommendation of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission which, if accepted by Canada, Japan, and the United States, will permit the Japanese to fish for halibut in the Eastern Bering Sea along with United States and Canadian fishermen. A statement issued

from the White House said, "In reaching this decision, we have not only taken into account our international obligations, but also the domestic factors which have come to our attention. We consider that this action advances the cause of the principle of abstention which is at the heart of the Tripartite Fisheries Treaty of 1952, and which provides a reasonable, workable, and essential procedure for dealing with certain major North Pacific Fisheries problems. We are determined to work for the continuation of this principle and of the Treaty in which it is set forth. We are cognizant of the Commission's recent successful efforts to develop conservation measures which, if accepted by the three parties to the Tripartite Fisheries Treaty, will provide suitable protection for Eastern Bering Sea halibut. This action will not take effect until the Canadian Government takes similar action."



Eighty-Eighth Congress (First Session)



Public bills and resolutions which may directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries are reported upon. Introduction, referral to committees, pertinent legislative actions by the House and Senate, as well as signature into law or other final disposition are covered.

ALASKA FISHING LIMITS: The House on Apr. 8, 1963, and the Senate on Apr. 9, 1963, were presented with a resolution from the Senate of the State of Alaska (Senate Joint Resolution 10), relating to the territorial waters of Alaska. The resolution states the fisheries abutting the Alaska coast are of enormous economic value and represent the sole source of livelihood for scores of American nationals; American nationals have fished for years under carefully planned and stringent conservation regulations imposed to insure maximum sustained yield from the resource; recent years have seen an increased amount of foreign fishing effort in the waters surrounding the Alaska coast; the alien fishermen fish entirely free of conservation restrictions imposed on American citizens; that the U. S. Government, charged with the obligation of protecting American fisheries from foreign encroachment, has taken insufficient action to protect the resource either through assertion of a greater territorial belt of water than 3 miles or application of the so-called base line method already sanctioned for use by the International Court of Justice; and the Governor

of the State of Alaska has attempted unceasingly to impress upon the U. S. Government the gravity of intrusions by foreign nationals into waters historically considered American and the necessity of establishing a broad claim to waters adjoining the Alaska coast; and the Governor, faced with the complete lack of action on the part of the U. S. Government, has acted courageously in protecting the fisheries of Alaska through State action which circumstances required. Referred to Senate Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

ANTIDUMPING ACT AMENDMENT: S. 1318 (Humphrey et al) introduced in Senate Apr. 11, 1963, to amend the Antidumping Act 1921; referred to the Committee on Finance. The objective of the U. S. Antidumping Act is to prevent foreign manufacturers from injuring American industries by dumping surplus merchandise here at prices below those charged in the exporting country. If the Treasury Department finds a price differential, and the Tariff Commission finds American industry is injured, the foreign manufacturer must pay the differential to the Treasury in dumping duties. The bill would make the Act more effective: achieving its original purpose and to help insure the international trade will be conducted in a fair and equitable manner. Would also prevent Soviet bloc exports from disrupting free world trade. Companion bills introduced in the House Apr. 11, 1963, were: H. R. 5688 (Thompson), H. R. 5694 (Byrne), H. R. 5695 (Curran), H. R. 5696 (Daniels), H. R. 5697 (Dent), H. R. 5698 (Ding), H. R. 5699 (Milliken), H. R. 5700 (Philbin), and H. R. 5701 (Tupper); all referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION: S. Doc. 6, Annual Report to Congress of the Atomic Energy Commission for 1962 (U. S. Senate 88th Congress, 1st Session), 6 pp., printed. Contains the reports on the Commission action, nuclear power programs, production and weapons program; other major programs; and regulatory activities. Included is a report of the program on radiation pasteurization of food. Research results obtained thus far in the Commission's 5-year research and development program indicate that radiation is effective for preserving foods in the manner envisioned such as low doses of radiation, etc. Some of the foods thus far tested with good results have been strawberries, peaches, haddock, and clams. The first public display of low-dose radiation-pasteurized food was during the year at the Fifth International Food Congress and Exhibition in New York City. The items displayed were fish and fruit products--crab, shrimp, flounder, strawberries, grapes, lemons, and necklines. The Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Technical Laboratories at Gloucester, Mass. and Seattle, Wash., are coordinating with the Commission on various studies being made on clams, haddock, crab, flounder.

CHEMICAL PESTICIDES COORDINATION: S. 1251 (Neuberger) introduced in Senate Apr. 2, 1963, to provide for advance consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and with State wildlife agencies before the beginning of any Federal program involving the use of pesticides or other chemicals designed for mass biological controls; referred to Committee on Commerce Also H. R. 5589 (Conte) introduced in House Apr. 1963; referred to House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

S. 1251 (Neuberger) introduced in Senate Apr. 1963, to amend the act of August 1, 1958, in order

prevention or minimize injury to fish and wildlife from the use of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and pesticides referred to Committee on Commerce. Also H. R. 55888 (Monte) introduced in the House on Apr. 10, 1963; referred to House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FUND: The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Commerce held hearings on Apr. 24 and 25 on S. 627, to amend the Act of August 11, 1939, relating to domestically produced fishery products to establish a fund for the advance of commercial fisheries.

H. R. 5539 (Bonner) and H. R. 5561 (Bates) introduced in House Apr. 9, 1963, to promote State commercial fishery research and development projects, and for other purposes; both referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

COMMODITY PACKAGING AND LABELING: H. R. 5333 (Estermeier) introduced in House Apr. 1, 1963, to amend the Clayton Act to prohibit restraints of trade carried into effect through the use of unfair and deceptive methods of packaging or labeling certain consumer commodities distributed in commerce, and for other purposes; referred to Committee on the Judiciary. Also H. R. 5027 (Gilbert) introduced in the House Mar. 21, 1963; referred to Committee on the Judiciary.

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN: H. Doc. 522, Volume VII, Delaware River Basin, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware (Letter from the Secretary of the Army transmitting a letter from the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, dated April 2, 1963, committing a report, together with accompanying maps and illustrations, on a review of the Delaware River and tributaries, requested by a resolution of the Committee on Public Works, United States Senate, adopted April 13, 1950, and other resolutions of that Committee of the Committee on Public Works, House of Representatives, listed in the report, House of Representatives, 87th Congress, 2nd Session), 176 pp., illustrated. Contains Appendix N, General Geology and Water, a report by the U. S. Geological Survey, and in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers, as a guide to the better understanding of the Delaware River service area.

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY PRODUCTS: The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce began hearings on Apr. 10, 1963, on H. R. 4700, to exempt certain carriers from minimum rate regulation in the transportation of bulk commodities, agricultural and fishery products, and passengers, and for other purposes.

H. R. 5201 (Harris) introduced in House Mar. 28, 1963, to amend Section 203 (b) (6) of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, so as to limit the application of the exemptions provided therein, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The present law provides the exemption for "motor vehicles used in carrying property consisting of ordinary livestock, fish (including shellfish), or agricultural (including horticultural) commodities (not including manufactured products thereof), if such vehicles are not used in carrying any other property, or passengers, for compensation. . . ." The bill changes this language to read "motor vehicles or combinations thereof having together a total of not more than three axles used in carrying property con-

sisting of ordinary livestock, fish (including shellfish), or agricultural (including horticultural) commodities (not including manufactured products thereof), if such motor vehicles or combinations thereof are not used in carrying any other property, or passengers, for compensation."

The Subcommittee on Surface Transportation of the Senate Committee on Commerce began hearings on May 6, 1963, on S. 1061, to exempt certain carriers from minimum rate regulation in the transportation of bulk commodities, agricultural and fishery products, and passengers.

FISHERY MARKETING ACT AMENDMENT: The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Commerce held hearings on May 8, 1963, on S. 1135, to make clear that fishermen's organizations, regardless of their technical legal status have a voice in the ex-vessel sale of fish or other aquatic products on which the livelihood of their members depends.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS FY 1964: The House on Apr. 2, 1963, passed by voice vote H. R. 5279, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1964, and for other purposes. Included are funds for the Fish and Wildlife Service, its two bureaus, Commercial Fisheries and Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Office of the Commissioner. The Senate on Apr. 3, 1963, received the bill from the House and referred it to the Committee on Appropriations.

MEDICAL CARE FOR VESSEL PERSONNEL: The Senate on Apr. 15, 1963, was presented with a resolution of the Senate of the State of Alaska (Senate Resolution 58) urging Congress to approve the restoration of medical care rights to owner-operators of vessels and self-employed seamen by the passage of H. R. 2108, to provide medical care for certain persons engaged on board a vessel in the care, preservation, or navigation of such vessel. Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce.

The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Commerce held hearings on Apr. 24 and 25, 1963, on S. 978, to provide medical care for certain persons engaged on board a vessel in the care, preservation, or navigation of such vessel.

The House on Apr. 22, 1963, was presented with a resolution of the Senate of the State of Alaska memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States relative to restoration of Federal medical care for persons employed or engaged on vessels; referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. This resolution urges Congress to approve passage of H. R. 2108, to provide medical care for certain persons engaged on board a vessel in the care, preservation, or navigation of such vessel.

METRIC SYSTEM STUDY: S. 1278 (Pell) introduced in Senate Apr. 4, 1963, to provide that the National Bureau of Standards shall conduct a program of investigation, research, and survey to determine the practicability of the adoption by the United States of the metric system of weights and measures; referred to the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences. In the Senate on Apr. 22, 1963, Senator Neuberger was added as additional co-sponsor of the bill.

OUTDOOR RECREATION BUREAU: H. Rept. 160, Promoting the Coordination and Development of Effective Programs Relating to Outdoor Recreation (A report from the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to accompany H. R. 1762), 9 pp., printed. The Committee favorably reported the bill with amendments and recommended passage. Contains purpose and background; contents of the bill, Committee amendments; and costs.

The House Committee on Rules Apr. 4, 1963, reported H. Res. 306, for consideration of H. R. 1762, to promote the coordination and development of effective Federal and State programs relating to outdoor recreation, and for other purposes; referred to the House Calendar. This is an open rule providing for the consideration of and 1 hour debate on H. R. 1762.

PACIFIC ISLANDS TRUST TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT: House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held hearings on Apr. 29-30, 1963, on H. R. 3198, to promote the economic and social development of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and for other purposes. Bill would amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to consider the Pacific Trust Territory as an insular possession of the United States in regard to duty-free importation into the U. S. This provision, however, would not apply to fishery products processed in the Trust Territory unless such fish were landed from U. S. flag vessels or Trust Territory vessels "Manned by crews, two-thirds of which are citizens of the U. S. or the Trust Territory."

SANITATION REGULATIONS FOR IMPORTED SHELLFISH: H. R. 1770 (Colmer) introduced in House Jan. 14, 1963, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for certain investigations and studies by the Surgeon General of the United States. Provides for investigations and studies in foreign countries relating to sanitary control of the shellfish industries. It would prohibit importation of shellfish from any country in which sanitary standards and practices are lower than the minimum requirements prescribed by the Public Health Service for the United States industry. Bill was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

STERN RAMP TRAWLER: The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Commerce held hearings on Apr. 24 and 25, 1963, on S. 744, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct 2 modern stern ramp trawlers to be used for research, and for other purposes. The House on Apr. 8, 1963, and the Senate on Apr. 9, 1963, were presented with a resolution of the Senate of the State of Alaska (Senate Joint Resolution 21), urging Congress to act favorably on S. 744, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct two modern stern ramp trawlers to be used for research, and other purposes. The resolution states: the high-seas fish resources of the United States are being ravaged by fleets of modern trawlers operated by foreign nations; the fishing fleets of the U.S. have never received the attention and encouragement necessary to permit our fishermen to compete successfully with the vast, effi-

cient and modern foreign fleets; and the construction by the Federal Government of two stern ramp trawlers would make available American vessels which could be used for exploratory and scientific investigations of fisheries resources of the high seas. Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, and the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FY 1963: H. R. 5517 (Thomas) introduced in House Apr. 5, 1963. Bill was reported favorably (H. Rept. 198), to the House by the Committee on Appropriations on the same day. Included are funds for the Department of the Interior. The Committee recommended \$658,400 for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, including the budget estimate of \$400,000 for research and development on processes to produce fish protein concentrate and \$258,400 to cover part of the cost of pay increases. The House on Apr. 10, 1963, passed by a voice vote H. R. 5517. Senate Apr. 11, 1963, received from the House H. R. 5517; referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

H. Rept. 198, Supplemental Appropriation Bill, (Apr. 5, 1963, report from the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, 88th Congress, 1st Session to accompany H. R. 5517), 27 pp., printed. The Committee considered budget estimates of \$1,641,500 and has recommended for appropriation \$988,756,500. Included are funds for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, the Committee recommended \$400,000 for research and development on processes to produce fish protein concentrate and \$258,400 to cover part of the cost of pay increases.

TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 1963: The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce began hearings on Apr. 30, 1963, on H. R. 4701, to provide for strengthening and improving the national transportation system and for other purposes.

The Subcommittee on Surface Transportation of the Senate Committee on Commerce began hearings on May 6, 1963, on S. 1062, to provide for strengthening and improving the national transportation system and for other purposes.

VESSEL CONSTRUCTION SUBSIDY AMENDMENT: The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Commerce began hearings May 7, 1963, on S. 1006, to amend the Act of July 1960, for the correction of inequities in the construction of fishing vessels, and for other purposes.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION: H. R. 5740 (Rodino) introduced in Senate Apr. 22, 1963, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, to establish the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, to increase grants for construction of municipal sewage treatment works, to provide financial assistance to municipalities and others for separation of combined sewers, to authorize the issuance of regulations to aid in preventing, controlling, and abating pollution of interstate or navigable waters and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on Public Works.

