

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2653

To direct the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing a national recreational fishing license.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 1997

Mr. COOKSEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing a national recreational fishing license.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. NATIONAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE**

4 **STUDY.**

5 (a) STUDY.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the United
7 States Fish and Wildlife Service shall conduct a
8 study of the feasibility and desirability of establish-

1 ing, under Federal law, a national recreational fish-
2 ing license that—

3 (A) would be available to individuals age
4 50 years old or older; and

5 (B) would grant to a holder of such a li-
6 cense the right to engage in recreational fishing
7 in navigable waters in any State, under the
8 same conditions and restrictions that apply
9 under the laws of the State to an individual
10 who holds a license, permit, or other authoriza-
11 tion for that fishing issued by the State.

12 (2) FEES.—The study shall include develop-
13 ment of formulas for—

14 (A) imposition of fees for such a national
15 recreational fishing license; and

16 (B) allocation among the States of
17 amounts received as such fees that would com-
18 pletely offset all decreases in State revenues re-
19 sulting from any reduction in sales of State rec-
20 reational fishing licenses because of the issu-
21 ance of such national recreational fishing li-
22 censes.

23 (b) REPORT.—The Director shall submit a report to
24 the Congress on the study conducted under this section,

- 1 by not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
- 2 of this Act.

