INTRODUCED

March 2, 2017

**S. 496**

Introduced by Medical Affairs Committee

S. Printed 3/2/17--S.

Read the first time March 2, 2017.

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO APPROVE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, RELATING TO SHELLFISH, DESIGNATED AS REGULATION DOCUMENT NUMBER 4736, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 23, TITLE 1 OF THE 1976 CODE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. The regulations of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, relating to Shellfish, designated as Regulation Document Number 4736, and submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Article 1, Chapter 23, Title 1 of the 1976 Code, are approved.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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SUMMARY AS SUBMITTED

BY PROMULGATING AGENCY.

Regulation R.61‑47 was last substantively amended on June 26, 2015. The regulation contains requirements for the safe and sanitary harvesting, storing, processing, handling and transportation of molluscan shellfish (oysters and clams) to protect the health of consumers of shellfish. The Department amends R.61‑47 to provide specific technical requirements regarding the harvesting and handling of clams and maricultured triploid oysters during the summer months (*i.e.,* months that require additional temperature controls) in a manner that is consistent with the national shellfish sanitation program and protects the health of the consumers of shellfish. The time period for additional temperature controls for the summer harvesting and handling of shellfish is May 16th through September 30th, unless otherwise specified. The amendment includes a requirement for certified shippers to only accept shellfish from harvesters that have received annual training on key regulatory requirements and the safe and sanitary practices related to the harvesting and handling of shellfish in South Carolina. The amendment updates several documents referenced in the regulation to the latest versions of the documents and adds a definition for “mariculture” and “triploid oyster.” The amendment also includes stylistic changes to correct for spelling, clarity, readability, grammar, and codification for overall improvement of the text of the regulation.

A Notice of Drafting for these amendments was published in the *State Register* on May 27, 2016.

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