PROPOSAL 271

5 AAC 39.645. Shellfish onboard observer program.

Specify marine safety requirements for fishing vessels carrying observers, as follows:

5 AAC 39.645 is amended to read:

. . .

- (i) When a vessel is required to carry an onboard observer, the vessel owner, owner's agent, or operator shall
- (11) maintain safe conditions on the vessel for the protection of observers including adherence to all U.S. Coast Guard and other applicable rules, regulations, or statutes pertaining to safe operation of the vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently, there are no regulations that address the standard for maintaining safe conditions at sea for fishery observers. The proposed regulation closely parallels federal regulations regarding observer safety.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F19-168)