Proposal No. 2 7 - 3 0 2

Proposal for Task Force Consideration at the ISSC 2027 Biennial Meeting *(Tab to go to next field)*	1. a. ☐ Growing Area b. ☐ Harvesting/Handling/Distribution c. X Administrative
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9. Proposal Subject	States Forum
10. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Constitution of the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference Article VIII. Duties of the Executive Director
11. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	Article VIII. Duties of the Executive Director 13. The Executive Director shall arrange two virtual forums of ISSC states on a semi-annual basis for the purpose of facilitating communication and resource sharing between states. One semi-annual forum shall be for topics and questions relating to growing area classification, patrol, and laboratory matters. The other semi-annual forum shall be for topics and questions relating to aquaculture and processing and shipping matters. Sixty (60) days prior to the forums, the Executive Director shall send the date and other pertinent details, and solicit questions and topics for discussion, to all ISSC members of producing states for the forum relating to growing area classification, patrol, aquaculture, Vibrio control plan, and laboratory matters, and to all ISSC members of all states for the forum relating to processing and shipping matters. State attendance at these virtual forums is optional.
12. Public Health Significance	Consumer safety is strengthened when public health authorities have the opportunity to have discussions and share resources. It would be beneficial if Authorities met occasionally to discuss emerging topics and ask questions amongst ourselves. The intent is an opportunity for informal dialogue, to provide state representatives with a place to ask questions and obtain resources, so that shellfish sanitation can be improved and standardized at the national level. Examples of questions and topics that a state may wish to bring to these forums might be "At what rainfall level do other states issue an emergency closure?" or "Are any states requiring shading on harvest boats outside Vibrio Control Plan months?" or "Does anyone have a template for a cooler process study that they could share?" There is an observation that Authorities generally don't communicate much outside Biennial Meetings, and this proposal is an attempt to provide them with an optional opportunity for increased communication. This proposal adds to the duties of the Executive Director to hold two semi-annual virtual forums for ISSC state members, one for growing area, patrol, aquaculture, Vibrio control plan, and laboratory topics, and the other for processing and shipping topics (the idea is that the first type of forum would be relevant for producing states, while the second type of forum would be relevant for all states). Both these forums would be held every six months to facilitate state communication.

13. Cost Information	None or minimal
14. Changes Needed to Guidance (if proposed change is adopted)	None