

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 791****2022 Regular Session****Kerner**

FISHING/PENALTIES: Provides relative to charter fishing without required credentials

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Removes the authorization for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to suspend or revoke recreational fishing privileges of a person for a year if he is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of certain charter boat fishing guide license requirements.
2. Provides for more expansive vessel monitoring system requirements and rules and regulations.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law requires a charter boat fishing guide to possess a valid state charter boat fishing guide license, a valid captain's license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard, proof of liability insurance, and a valid state recreational fishing license that grants fishing privileges appropriate for his charter activity. Further provides penalties for violating these requirements.

Proposed law adds a requirement that any offender, on second and subsequent offenses, may only operate a vessel that employs a vessel monitoring system for the three years after the date of conviction. Provides that anyone required to employ a vessel monitoring system who is caught operating a vessel that is not equipped with such system may have his charter license suspended for the remainder of that year. Further provides the La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries with access to the monitoring system and requires the department to promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act to implement the provisions of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 56:302.9(J))