

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 706****2018 Regular Session****Zeringue**

FISHING/RECREATIONAL: Relative to possession limits of filleted red drum, spotted sea trout, or Southern flounder on board a vessel while on the water

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Changes the requirements that enable possession of up to the possession limit of filleted red drum, spotted sea trout, and Southern flounder.
2. Requires the fisherman to use a boat launch south of U.S. Highway 90.
3. Changes the length requirements for spotted sea trout and red drum.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present law prohibits possession of over the daily bag limit of red drum, spotted sea trout, or Southern flounder while fishing or while on the water, unless such recreational saltwater fisherman is aboard a trawler engaged in commercial fishing for a consecutive period of longer than 25 hours and the vessel is equipped to cook. Further prohibits the possession of filleted fish while aboard a vessel on the water.

Proposed law allows a fisherman who holds and possesses a valid recreational fishing license and can demonstrate certain requirements to the department's satisfaction to possess up to the possession limit of filleted red drum, spotted sea trout, and Southern flounder. These requirements include use of a boat launch south of US 190 and actively being on the water or at a remote camp for two days or more.

Proposed law requires the filleted fish to have sufficient skin remaining on the fillet to allow for identification and to be segregated by species into plastic bags or containers that are marked with certain information. Further provides the required length of the fillets for spotted sea trout must be no less than 10 inches and fillets of red drum must be no less than 14 inches.

Proposed law requires the fish to be in the possession of the person who took the fish and prohibits a fisherman from actively fishing or being engaged in fishing while in possession of more than the daily take limit.

(Amends R.S. 56:325.1(A)(3))