HLS 22RS-2517 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1060 (Substitute for House Bill No. 338 by Representative Coussan)
BY REPRESENTATIVE COUSSAN

FISHING/LICENSES: Provides relative to freshwater charter boat fishing guide licenses

1 AN ACT 2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:302.9(A)(1) and (3), relative to charter boat fishing licenses; 3 to remove state requirement for a valid United States Coast Guard captain's license 4 for freshwater charter boat fishing guides; and to provide for related matters. 5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 6 Section 1. R.S. 56:302.9(A)(1) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read 7 as follows: 8 §302.9. Charter boat fishing guide license; nonresident fee 9 A.(1)(a) No person shall act as nor represent himself to be a <u>saltwater</u> charter 10 boat fishing guide unless that person possesses a valid state charter boat fishing 11 guide license, a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard, proof 12 of liability insurance, and a valid state recreational fishing license that grants fishing 13 privileges appropriate for his charter activity. In addition, any person acting as a 14 saltwater charter boat fishing guide who is in charge of the operation of a vessel shall 15 have his required licenses and proof of liability insurance on his person while on the 16 water. It shall not be a violation of this Section for a person to represent himself as 17 a charter boat fishing guide if that person held a valid license during the previous 18 thirty days but has not renewed the license. 19 (b) No person shall act as or represent himself to be a freshwater charter boat 20 fishing guide unless that person possesses a valid state charter boat fishing guide

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

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license, proof of liability insurance, and a valid state recreational fishing license that grants fishing privileges appropriate for his charter activity. In addition, any person acting as a freshwater charter boat fishing guide who is in charge of the operation of a vessel shall have his required licenses and proof of liability insurance on his person while on the water. It shall not be a violation of this Section for a person to represent himself as a charter boat fishing guide if that person held a valid license during the previous thirty days but has not renewed the license.

\* \* \*

(3) The nonresident charter boat fishing guide license shall be available only from the Baton Rouge office of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Such licenses shall be issued on a consignment basis, and no agent fees shall apply. A nonresident saltwater charter boat fishing guide license shall be made available only to those persons who possess a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1060 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Coussan

**Abstract:** Removes the requirement for a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard for freshwater charter guides.

<u>Present law</u> requires residents and nonresidents to obtain a freshwater charter boat fishing guide license in order to represent himself to be a charter boat fishing guide. Further requires both freshwater and saltwater charter guides possess a valid captain's license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard.

<u>Proposed law</u> removes the requirement that a freshwater charter boat fishing guide possess a valid captain's license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard in order to conduct guided fishing tours in freshwater. Additionally, provides an exception to a licensure violation for a person who represents himself as a charter boat fishing guide if the person possessed a valid license during the previous 30 days but has not renewed.

(Amends R.S. 56:302.9(A)(1) and (3))