

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 124 (SB 448)

2022 Regular Session

Luneau

Existing law provides that any person who kills, catches, takes, possesses, or injures any fish, wild birds, wild quadrupeds, and other wildlife and aquatic life in violation of existing law, any other state's law, or federal law governing fish or wildlife, or a regulation adopted pursuant to those laws, is liable for the value of the wildlife or aquatic life.

Existing law requires the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to demand restitution for the value of the wildlife or aquatic life when such a violation occurs. Existing law authorizes the department to recover the value through an adjudicatory hearing in lieu of filing a civil suit. Existing law authorizes either party to appeal the ruling from the adjudicatory hearing in the district court where the offense occurred.

Prior law authorized the secretary to enforce the final ruling from the administrative hearing through civil proceedings in the 19th JDC.

New law removes the secretary's authority to institute civil enforcement proceedings of a ruling in the 19th JDC.

New law provides that a judgment from the administrative hearing shall become executory when all delays for appeal have expired according to the provisions of the APA and the La. C.C.P.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 56:40.3(E))