

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 652

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRAUD

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES: Provides for the membership of the the Oyster Task Force

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:421(B)(5) through (15), (C), and (E)(4) and to enact R.S.
3 56:421(B)(16), relative to the Oyster Task Force; to add one member to the task
4 force appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry;
5 to add the Department of Agriculture and Forestry as an entity that receives
6 recommendations from the task force relative to the oyster industry and production;
7 and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 56:421(B)(5) through (15), (C), and (E)(4) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted and R.S. 56:421(B)(16) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §421. Oyster Task Force

12 * * *

13 B. The task force shall be composed as follows:

14 * * *

15 (5) One member appointed by the commissioner of the Department of
16 Agriculture and Forestry.

17 ~~(5)~~ (6) Four members appointed by the Louisiana Oyster Dealers and
18 Growers Association. Two members appointed under the provisions of this
19 Paragraph shall be selected at-large. Of the other two members, one shall be from

1 Jefferson Parish and one shall be selected from either Lafourche or Terrebonne
2 Parish.

3 ~~(6)~~ (7) Two members appointed by the Plaquemines Oyster Association.

4 ~~(7)~~ (8) One member appointed by the Terrebonne Oyster Association.

5 ~~(8)~~ (9) One member appointed by the Cameron Parish police jury who is a
6 properly licensed oyster harvester with documented commercial landings of oysters
7 from Calcasieu Lake, or a properly licensed seafood dealer with documented
8 commercial purchases of oysters from Calcasieu Lake during the current or
9 preceding license year of appointment as per records of the Department of Wildlife
10 and Fisheries.

11 ~~(9)~~ (10) One member appointed by the Southwest Pass Oyster Leaseholder
12 Association.

13 ~~(10)~~ (11) Two members appointed by the United Commercial Fisherman's
14 Association.

15 ~~(11)~~ (12) One member appointed by the Delta Commercial Fisherman's
16 organization.

17 ~~(12)~~ (13) One member who has voting authority and is an oyster grower
18 appointed by the president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.

19 ~~(13)~~ (14) One member appointed by the Louisiana Oyster Aquaculture
20 Association.

21 ~~(14)~~ (15) One member appointed by the executive director of the Coastal
22 Protection and Restoration Authority.

23 ~~(15)~~ (16) One member appointed by the Louisiana Oystermen Association.

24 C. The members appointed under the provisions of Paragraphs (B)(1)
25 through ~~(4)~~ (5) and ~~(14)~~ (16) of this Section shall be nonvoting members. However,
26 they shall be considered members of the task force for determination of the number
27 of members necessary for a quorum and for establishing the presence of a quorum.

28 * * *

