

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 142

BY REPRESENTATIVE DOVE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FISHING/CRABS: Provides for an exemption from the requirement that crab traps have escape rings

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:332(K), relative to methods of taking crabs; to exempt certain
3 traps from the requirement for escape rings; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 56:332(K) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §332. Crabs; release of crabs in berry stage; method of taking crabs; time
7 limitations; by-catch; penalties; abandoned crab trap removal program

8 * * *

9 K. ~~Beginning January 1, 1998, and thereafter~~ Except as otherwise provided
10 in this Subsection, each crab trap shall have a minimum of two escape rings. All
11 escape rings shall be placed on the vertical, outside walls flush with the trap floor or
12 baffle, with at least one ring located in each chamber of the trap. The minimum sizes
13 of the rings shall be two and five-sixteenths inches in inside diameter, not including
14 the ring material. The rings shall be rigid and attached to the trap with material of
15 a smaller diameter than the wire strands of the trap. Except from April first through
16 June thirtieth and from September first through October thirty-first, escape ring
17 openings shall not be obstructed with any material that prevents or hampers exit of
18 crabs. However, the provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to ~~those crab traps~~

