**ENROLLED**

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.

AN ACT

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

* * *

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



CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

any crab trap constructed of wire mesh two and five-sixteenths inches square or greater or any crab trap placed in Lake Pontchartrain.

* * *

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____



CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.