

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 344

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

FISH/FISHING. Provides for the Louisiana Catch and Cook Program within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. (8/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 56:317, relative to fishing; to establish the Louisiana Catch and Cook Program  
3 within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; to allow restaurants to prepare  
4 certain recreational fish; to provide penalties, terms, conditions, and requirements;  
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:317 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§317 Louisiana Catch and Cook Program; preparation of recreational fish in**  
9 **restaurants**

10 **A. Notwithstanding any provision of the state Sanitary Code or any other**  
11 **law or regulation to the contrary, it shall be lawful for restaurants to receive**  
12 **and prepare any freshwater or saltwater recreational fish as defined in R.S.**  
13 **56:8.**

14 **B.(1) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is hereby**  
15 **authorized to establish the Louisiana Catch and Cook Program, whereby a**  
16 **restaurant shall be authorized to prepare any fish legally taken by a licensed**  
17 **recreational fisherman.**

1                   **(2) The program shall be established through the promulgation and**  
2                   **adoption of rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative**  
3                   **Procedure Act. Such rules and regulations shall include but are not limited to**  
4                   **identification of the recreational fisherman, identification of fish, date and**  
5                   **location of the catch, and signage in the restaurant indicating that**  
6                   **noncommercial fish are being prepared in the restaurant.**

7                   **C. Any restaurant who wishes to participate in the Louisiana Catch and**  
8                   **Cook Program shall apply to the department to be issued a participation permit**  
9                   **by the department. There shall be no fee for the application process or permit.**  
10                  **The permit may be suspended or revoked by the department for any violation**  
11                  **of the rules and regulations of this program.**

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by McHenry Lee.

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#### DIGEST

Allain (SB 344)

Proposed law authorizes restaurants to receive and prepare any freshwater or saltwater recreational fish.

Proposed law creates the Louisiana Catch and Cook Program within the DWF and authorizes the secretary to promulgate rules and regulations for the program. Requires that such rules must include identification of the fisherman, identification of fish, date and location of the catch, and signage in the restaurant indicating that noncommercial fish are being prepared in the restaurant.

Proposed law requires the department to issue permits for restaurants who wish to participate in the program.

Proposed law prohibits any fee for the application process or permit.

Proposed law provides that the permit may be suspended or revoked by the department for any violation of the rules and regulations of the program.

Effective August 1, 2014

(Adds R.S. 56:317)