

SENATE BILL NO. 154

BY SENATOR LONG

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:327(A)(2) and 412(A)(4) and (6) and to repeal R.S. 56:327.1, relative to the importation of certain fish; to provide for importation regulations and licensing requirements; to provide certain size requirements for importation; to exempt certain persons from the notification provisions; to remove certain provisions relative to the importation of aquaculturally raised fish and cultured fish; to provide terms, conditions, and requirements; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:327(A)(2) and 412(A)(4) and (6) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§327. Sale or purchase of freshwater or saltwater game fish prohibited; commercial sales and purchases, commercial license required; commercial fingerlings and certified mariculture and aquaculture fish excepted; penalties

A.(1) * * *

(2) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to regulate the importation, possession, or sale of game fish species. Red drum, hybrid striped bass, or any other game fish species approved by the commission, which are legally taken, possessed, or sold commercially outside of the state, and aquaculturally raised game fish, may be imported, sold, or purchased by properly licensed ~~wholesale/retail seafood dealers~~ **persons. Except those game fish being imported under a domesticated aquatic organisms license, prior** Prior to each shipment into this state of any game fish **for**

1 **consumption**, the buyer or handler of such shipment shall notify the secretary or his
 2 designated agent of its pending arrival and shall possess a bill of lading ~~therefor~~. The
 3 bill of lading shall state the species of fish contained in each shipment, the number
 4 of fish or parts thereof, the origin of the shipment, the destination of the shipment,
 5 the consignee and consignor, and where applicable, the grower's name and fish
 6 farmer's license number. Wholesalers, their agents, and commercial transporters
 7 delivering the shipment or portions thereof to retail dealers shall provide each dealer
 8 with a copy of their bill of lading and shall indicate thereon the date of delivery to
 9 the retailer, the species of fish delivered, and the number of fish or parts thereof
 10 delivered. Both wholesale and retail dealers shall maintain a file of such bills of
 11 lading which shall be open to inspection by the secretary, his agents, or any
 12 enforcement agents. Regulations adopted by the commission may utilize a
 13 confirmation number system in lieu of copies of bills of lading provided by
 14 wholesale/retail seafood dealers to retail seafood dealers.

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§412. Issuance and renewal of domesticated aquatic organism license

A. (1) * * *

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19 (4) Persons engaged in the business of aquaculture under this Subpart are
 20 excepted from the provisions of R.S. 56:306, **and the notification provisions of**
 21 **R.S. 56:327(A)(2)**, and shall, by virtue of their license, be entitled to sell
 22 domesticated aquatic organisms in any size, quantity, or limit without restriction
 23 within the state or outside of the state. Creel limits shall not apply to shipments or
 24 transport of domesticated aquatic organisms under the provisions of this Subpart.

* * *

26 (6) Species of rock bass, white bass, yellow bass, crappie, and bream
 27 fingerlings not exceeding a maximum total length of ~~three~~ **six** inches; **and** spotted
 28 bass, **and** striped bass, ~~fingerlings not exceeding a maximum total length of ten~~
 29 ~~inches~~; and largemouth bass of any size may be brought into the state by and from
 30 legal and certified out-of-state commercial fish hatcheries for sale to persons for

1 stocking ponds and approved public waters located in Louisiana and may be sold by
2 permitted residents in accordance with the provisions of this Subsection. Creel limits
3 shall not apply to shipments of such game fish fingerlings.

4 * * *

5 Section 2. R.S. 56:327.1 is hereby repealed.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____