
DIGEST

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HB 1130 Original

2016 Regular Session

Garofalo

Abstract: Authorizes joint leasing between the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries and private claimants to the water bottoms of the water bottoms for oyster cultivation and harvest

Proposed law authorizes the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to enter into an agreement with a private claimant whereby certain water bottoms may, in cooperation between the state and the private claimant, be leased for the cultivation and harvest of oysters. Specifies that any such agreement does not in any way indicate or determine ownership of the water bottom nor does the agreement allocate or designate ownership of mineral rights beneath the water bottom.

Proposed law provides that an agreement may originate with either the department or the private claimant; requires annual rental payments to be made to the department; and specifies that except for a determination of state ownership, the lease is subject to the provisions in law that govern oyster leasing in addition to any other conditions of the agreement between the state and the private claimant.

Proposed law specifies that the joint agreement between the state and the private claimant remains in effect for the term of any lease issued subject to the agreement or until ownership of the water bottom has been determined by final judgment of the court. Terminates any lease subject to the joint agreement at the time a court has issued a final determination of ownership of the water bottom.

Proposed law provides that any lease to be issued under the provisions of this Section shall not be subject to the moratorium on oyster leases adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on March 7, 2002.

(Adds R.S. 56:425.1)