

**ACT No. 144**

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 142

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEOPOLD

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:433.1(A)(1), relative to oyster harvest; to authorize additional  
3 means of harvesting oysters on the oyster seed grounds under the oyster seed ground  
4 vessel permit; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 56:433.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §433.1. Oyster seed ground vessel permit; Oyster Seed Ground Vessel Permit  
8 Appeals Board

9 A.(1) Any oysters taken for commercial purposes from the public natural  
10 reefs or the oyster seed grounds or reservations, except those in Calcasieu Lake or  
11 Sabine Lake, shall be placed only on a vessel which has an oyster seed ground vessel  
12 permit issued exclusively by the department pursuant to rules and regulations  
13 promulgated by the commission. The commission may establish a limit on the  
14 number of permits that may be issued each year after consultation with the Louisiana  
15 Oyster Task Force. Such permit shall be issued in the name of the vessel owner and  
16 shall identify the vessel permitted by including the state registration number or the  
17 United States Coast Guard documented number. The permit shall identify the vessel  
18 that may possess and transport oysters taken from the public natural reefs and oyster  
19 seed grounds. The permit does not grant any rights to the oyster resource or any  
20 rights to harvest oysters from the waters of the state and shall not be sold, exchanged,  
21 or otherwise transferred. The permit is valid for one year, beginning on January first  
22 of each calendar year and expiring on December thirty-first of the same calendar  
23 year, and permit holders who hold a valid permit during the prior year may renew the  
24 permit at any time of the year for the current license year and from November

1           fifteenth for the immediately following license year. The cost of the permit for a  
2           ~~single scraper~~ vessel from which oysters will be harvested using a single scraper,  
3           tongs, or by hand shall be two hundred fifty dollars for a resident and one thousand  
4           dollars for a nonresident. ~~and the~~ The cost of the permit for a vessel from which  
5           oysters will be harvested using a double scraper or any other legal method of harvest  
6           ~~vessel~~ shall be five hundred dollars for a resident and two thousand dollars for a  
7           nonresident. After having been credited to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund  
8           as required by Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, all  
9           revenues received from purchase of the permit shall be deposited in the Public  
10           Oyster Seed Ground Development Account, R.S. 56:434.1.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_