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## DIGEST

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HB 230 Original

2021 Regular Session

Travis Johnson

**Abstract:** Abolishes the La. Aquatic Chelonian Research and Promotion Bd. and provides for the transfer of positions and monies associated with the board.

Present law creates the La. Aquatic Chelonian Research and Promotion Bd. (board), provides for its purpose and powers, as well as the composition of the board and its officers, authorizes the board to assess a fee on all aquatic chelonians produced in La., creates a process for refunds, establishes a fund within the La. Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) for the deposit and disbursement of fees and other monies received under this Part to use for paying the costs related to the promoting of research, advertising, and marketing of aquatic chelonians, and provides for offenses and penalties.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law places the board within the LDAF.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law transfers any monies received by the board to the La. Agriculture Finance Authority to fund all costs related to a campaign for expanding research related to aquatic chelonians, improving the quality and variety of La. aquatic chelonians through research, and increasing sales of La. aquatic chelonians through advertising and marketing.

Present law requires the board to employ a director and assistant director in unclassified service positions under the supervision of the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

Proposed law transfers the present law positions to the aquaculture development program established by law under the LDAF.

Effective upon the signature of the governor.

(Repeals R.S. 3:559.21-559.29 and R.S. 36:629(Q))