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## DIGEST

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HB 644 Original

2021 Regular Session

Brown

**Abstract:** Creates the Wild Caught Crawfish Advisory Council within the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to make policy recommendations, develop market strategies and represent the interests of the industry.

Proposed law creates the Wild Caught Crawfish Advisory Council within Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and establishes its membership, including provisions for voting rights of members, establishing a quorum, terms of service, compensation and bylaws.

Proposed law provides for nonvoting members to be appointed from the following agencies, institutions, and professions:

- (1) The governor or the governor's designee.
- (2) An inland fisheries biologist from the LDWF.
- (3) An enforcement agent from the LDWF.
- (4) An expert in scientific or economic research regarding crawfish from the LSU.
- (5) Agricultural Center program.
- (6) A crawfish research scientist from a Louisiana university.
- (7) Dept. of Natural Resources coastal management division.
- (8) United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Proposed law provides for voting members to be appointed as follows:

- (1) Four commercial wild crawfish dealers or processors from Atchafalaya Basin area.
- (2) Five commercial wild crawfish fishermen from the the Atchafalaya Basin area.
- (3) Two wild crawfish fishermen, dealers, or processors to serve as at-large members.

Proposed law establishes the duties of the council to make policy recommendations, develop market strategies, and represent the interests of the wild caught crawfish industry.

(Adds R.S. 56:330.1)