

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

**ACT 148 (SB 166)**

**2024 Regular Session**

**Connick**

New law prohibits potentially misleading packaging and marketing of seafood products as Louisiana products.

New law provides for an exception to the prohibition if the product package meets certain criteria.

New law requires the commissioner of agriculture to ensure compliance and issue fines for violations of new law.

Existing law requires all state agencies, state institutions, and local school districts that operate food service facilities for students, patients, or inmates to only utilize meat, poultry, and seafood products that have met all La. Department of Agriculture and Forestry requirements for grading and certification.

New law adds that those entities only utilize domestic shrimp or domestic crawfish as defined in new law.

Prior law established a Chinese seafood warning label program.

New law modernizes the warning label program to include all imported seafood.

Existing law requires food service establishments that sell or provide cooked or prepared crawfish or shrimp that originate outside of the United States to notify patrons that the seafood is imported.

Existing law requires the La. Department of Health to ensure compliance with notification requirements.

Existing law prohibits an owner or manager of a restaurant that sells imported crawfish or shrimp from misrepresenting to the public, either verbally, on a menu, or on signs displayed on the premises, that the crawfish or shrimp is domestic.

Prior law required the district attorney of the district where the restaurant is located to have jurisdiction over violations.

New law combines the existing law provisions and grants enforcement authority of both provisions to the La. Department of Health and increases fines issued by the department.

New law changes the notification requirement to require a disclaimer that imported crawfish or shrimp may be sold at the establishment to be printed on a menu or placed on a sign displayed at the front of the establishment.

New law provides additional notification requirements for food establishments that sell unpackaged crawfish or shrimp.

New law requires the La. Department of Health to establish a reporting mechanism for members of the public to report suspected violations and provides for limitations on liability for individuals who report.

New law repeals provisions in the Sanitary Code relative to Chinese seafood.

Effective January 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 39:2101 and R.S. 40:5.5.2 and 5.5.4; adds R.S. 3:4706; repeals R.S. 40:4(A)(1)(b) and R.S. 56:578.14)