HLS 13RS-256 ENGROSSED

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 142

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BY REPRESENTATIVE DOVE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FISHING/CRABS: Provides for an exemption from the requirement that crab traps have escape rings

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:332(K), relative to methods of taking crabs; to exempt certain 3 traps from the requirement for escape rings; and to provide for related matters. 4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 5 Section 1. R.S. 56:332(K) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 6 §332. Crabs; release of crabs in berry stage; method of taking crabs; time 7 limitations; by-catch; penalties; abandoned crab trap removal program 8 9 K. Beginning January 1, 1998, and thereafter Except as otherwise provided 10 in this Subsection, each crab trap shall have a minimum of two escape rings. All 11 escape rings shall be placed on the vertical, outside walls flush with the trap floor or 12 baffle, with at least one ring located in each chamber of the trap. The minimum sizes 13 of the rings shall be two and five-sixteenths inches in inside diameter, not including 14 the ring material. The rings shall be rigid and attached to the trap with material of 15 a smaller diameter than the wire strands of the trap. Except from April first through 16 June thirtieth and from September first through October thirty-first, escape ring 17 openings shall not be obstructed with any material that prevents or hampers exit of

crabs. However, the provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to those crab traps

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1 any crab trap constructed of wire mesh two and five-sixteenths inches square or

greater or any crab trap placed in Lake Pontchartrain.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Dove HB No. 142

Abstract: Exempts certain crab traps from the escape ring requirement.

<u>Present law</u> requires each crab trap to have a minimum of two escape rings. <u>Present law</u> describes the escape rings and specifies the size and location of the rings on the trap. Exempts traps placed in Lake Pontchartrain from the requirement for escape rings.

<u>Proposed law</u> continues <u>present law</u> but adds an exemption for traps which are made of wire mesh 2-5/16ths inch square or larger.

(Amends R.S. 56:332(K))

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