

SENATE BILL NO. 154

BY SENATOR LONG

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:327(A)(2) and 412(A)(4) and (6) and to repeal R.S. 56:327.1,  
3 relative to the importation of certain fish; to provide for importation regulations and  
4 licensing requirements; to provide certain size requirements for importation; to  
5 exempt certain persons from the notification provisions; to remove certain provisions  
6 relative to the importation of aquaculturally raised fish and cultured fish; to provide  
7 terms, conditions, and requirements; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 56:327(A)(2) and 412(A)(4) and (6) are hereby amended and  
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §327. Sale or purchase of freshwater or saltwater game fish prohibited; commercial  
12 sales and purchases, commercial license required; commercial  
13 fingerlings and certified mariculture and aquaculture fish excepted;  
14 penalties

15 A.(1) \* \* \*

16 (2) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance  
17 with the Administrative Procedure Act to regulate the importation, possession, or  
18 sale of game fish species. Red drum, hybrid striped bass, or any other game fish  
19 species approved by the commission, which are legally taken, possessed, or sold  
20 commercially outside of the state, and aquaculturally raised game fish, may be  
21 imported, sold, or purchased by properly licensed ~~wholesale/retail seafood dealers~~  
22 **persons. Except those game fish being imported under a domesticated aquatic**  
23 **organisms license, prior** Prior to each shipment into this state of any game fish **for**

1            **consumption**, the buyer or handler of such shipment shall notify the secretary or his  
 2            designated agent of its pending arrival and shall possess a bill of lading ~~therefor~~. The  
 3            bill of lading shall state the species of fish contained in each shipment, the number  
 4            of fish or parts thereof, the origin of the shipment, the destination of the shipment,  
 5            the consignee and consignor, and where applicable, the grower's name and fish  
 6            farmer's license number. Wholesalers, their agents, and commercial transporters  
 7            delivering the shipment or portions thereof to retail dealers shall provide each dealer  
 8            with a copy of their bill of lading and shall indicate thereon the date of delivery to  
 9            the retailer, the species of fish delivered, and the number of fish or parts thereof  
 10           delivered. Both wholesale and retail dealers shall maintain a file of such bills of  
 11           lading which shall be open to inspection by the secretary, his agents, or any  
 12           enforcement agents. Regulations adopted by the commission may utilize a  
 13           confirmation number system in lieu of copies of bills of lading provided by  
 14           wholesale/retail seafood dealers to retail seafood dealers.

\* \* \*

§412. Issuance and renewal of domesticated aquatic organism license

A. (1) \* \* \*

\* \* \*

19            (4) Persons engaged in the business of aquaculture under this Subpart are  
 20            excepted from the provisions of R.S. 56:306, **and the notification provisions of**  
 21            **R.S. 56:327(A)(2)**, and shall, by virtue of their license, be entitled to sell  
 22            domesticated aquatic organisms in any size, quantity, or limit without restriction  
 23            within the state or outside of the state. Creel limits shall not apply to shipments or  
 24            transport of domesticated aquatic organisms under the provisions of this Subpart.

\* \* \*

26            (6) Species of rock bass, white bass, yellow bass, crappie, and bream  
 27            fingerlings not exceeding a maximum total length of ~~three~~ **six** inches; **and** spotted  
 28            bass, ~~and striped bass, fingerlings not exceeding a maximum total length of ten~~  
 29            ~~inches~~; and largemouth bass of any size may be brought into the state by and from  
 30            legal and certified out-of-state commercial fish hatcheries for sale to persons for

1 stocking ponds and approved public waters located in Louisiana and may be sold by  
2 permitted residents in accordance with the provisions of this Subsection. Creel limits  
3 shall not apply to shipments of such game fish fingerlings.

4 \* \* \*

5 Section 2. R.S. 56:327.1 is hereby repealed.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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