

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 438

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAMBERT

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

FISHING/CRAWFISH: Sets minimum size for live crawfish sold for direct human consumption

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 3:556.15 and R.S. 56:330(D), relative to the sale of live crawfish; to provide  
3 for a minimum size limit for live crawfish intended for direct human consumption;  
4 to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 3:556.15 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §556.15. Crawfish; minimum size for sale for direct human consumption

8 No person shall sell, market, or purchase to sell for direct human  
9 consumption or attempt to sell, market, or purchase to sell for direct human  
10 consumption any live crawfish smaller than three and one-half inches measured from  
11 the tip of the rostrum to the rear edge of the carapace. Any crawfish harvested or  
12 captured that is smaller than three and one-half inches measured from the tip of the  
13 rostrum to the rear edge of the carapace shall only be sold for use as bait or peelers.  
14 In verifying compliance with the size limits contained in this Section, there shall be  
15 a five percent allowance for undersized crawfish in each sack. Violations shall be  
16 punished in the manner of a class two violation as provided in R.S. 56:32.

17 Section 2. R.S. 56:330(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

18 §330. Crawfish harvesters; crawfish traps

19 \* \* \*

1           D. No person shall sell, market, or purchase to sell for direct human  
2           consumption or attempt to sell, market, or purchase to sell for direct human  
3           consumption any live crawfish smaller than three and one-half inches measured from  
4           the tip of the rostrum to the rear edge of the carapace. Any crawfish harvested or  
5           captured that is smaller than three and one-half inches measured from the tip of the  
6           rostrum to the rear edge of the carapace shall only be sold for use as bait or peelers.  
7           In verifying compliance with the size limits contained in this Section, there shall be  
8           a five percent allowance for undersized crawfish in each sack. Violations shall be  
9           class two violations punishable as provided in R.S. 56:32.

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)]

HB 438 Original

2015 Regular Session

Lambert

**Abstract:** Provides for a minimum size of live crawfish sold for direct human consumption.

Proposed law prohibits the sale or attempted sale, marketing, or purchase for sale of live crawfish for direct human consumption that are smaller than 3-1/2 inches from the tip of the rostrum to the rear edge of the carapace. Provides that any crawfish smaller than that can only be sold for peelers or for use as bait. Allows a 5% variance of undersized crawfish in each sack.

Proposed law provides that a class two violation is punishable as follows:

	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd and Subsequent Offense
Class Two Violation	\$100 - \$350 or imprisonment not more than 60 days, or both	\$300 - \$550 and imprisonment between 30 and 60 days	\$500 - \$750 and imprisonment between 60 and 90 days, and forfeiture

(Adds R.S. 3:556.15 and R.S. 56:330(D))