

ACT No. 315

HOUSE BILL NO. 1346

BY REPRESENTATIVES DOVE, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BILLIOT, HENRY BURNS, CHAMPAGNE, FOIL, GISCLAIR, GUINN, HARRISON, HENDERSON, SAM JONES, LAMBERT, LEGER, LITTLE, MONToucET, RICHARD, ST. GERMAIN, WHITE, AND WOOTON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:639.8(E) and (G), relative to the Artificial Reef Development
3 Fund; to allow the monies in said fund to be used in association with the wild
4 seafood certification program administered by the Department of Wildlife and
5 Fisheries; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:639.8(E) and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
8 follows:

9 §639.8. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; Artificial Reef Development Fund

10 * * *

11 E.(1) Monies may be withdrawn directly from the Reef Fund for the
12 operation of the program as described in R.S. 56:639.5, including evaluation of the
13 program and administrative and field support for the permitting, establishing,
14 monitoring, and maintenance of artificial reefs established pursuant to this Subpart
15 until such time that the council determines that the annual interest earnings from the
16 fund are sufficient to run the program.

17 (2) In addition to the expenditures authorized in Paragraph (1) of this
18 Subsection, an amount not to exceed ten percent of the funds deposited to the fund
19 each year and ten percent of the interest income to the fund may be used by the
20 department to provide funding in association with the wild seafood certification
21 program, particularly in support of wild-caught shrimp, established by the
22 department. Such funding may be used for a subsidy granted to seafood harvesters

1 or processors to assist in their efforts to comply with the certification program
2 requirements and may be used for administration of the program.

3 * * *

4 G. In future years, if interest income exceeds operational costs for the
5 artificial reef program, marine fisheries research and habitat enhancement projects
6 may be funded through the department with advice from the council.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____