

ACT No. 539

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1154

BY REPRESENTATIVE GISCLAIR

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:332(K), relative to crab trap escape rings; to provide for a
3 minimum size for such rings; to provide for the minimum number of escape rings for
4 each crab trap; to remove the exemption for traps placed in Lake Pontchartrain; and
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:332(K) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §332. Crabs; release of crabs in berry stage; method of taking crabs; time
9 limitations; by-catch; penalties; abandoned crab trap removal program;
10 escape rings

11 * * *

12 K. Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, each crab trap shall have
13 a minimum of ~~two~~ three escape rings. All escape rings shall be placed on the
14 vertical, outside walls flush with the trap floor or baffle, with at least ~~one ring~~ two
15 rings located in ~~each~~ the upper chamber of the trap. The minimum sizes of the rings
16 shall be two and ~~five-sixteenths~~ three-eighths inches in inside diameter, not including
17 the ring material. The rings shall be rigid and attached to the trap with material of
18 a smaller diameter than the wire strands of the trap. Except from April first through
19 June thirtieth and from September first through October thirty-first, escape ring
20 openings shall not be obstructed with any material that prevents or hampers exit of
21 crabs. However, the provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to any crab trap
22 constructed of wire mesh two and five-sixteenths inches square or greater ~~or any crab~~
23 ~~trap placed in Lake Pontchartrain.~~

24 * * *

1 Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall become effective November 15, 2017, and
2 shall be applicable to license year 2017 and thereafter.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____