HLS 24RS-1539 ENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 847

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

FISHING/FINFISH: Provides for the creation and use of the Marine Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund

AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 56:10(B)(19), relative to the Marine Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund; to 3 create the Marine Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund; to provide for authorized uses 4 of the fund; and to provide for related matters. 5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 6 Section 1. R.S. 56:10(B)(19) is hereby enacted to read as follows: 7 §10. Annual report to governor; estimate of proposed expenditures; particular funds; 8 limitations on purposes for use of monies in particular funds and accounts; 9 warrants; vouchers; surplus funds 10 11 B. 12 13 (19) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a "Marine Finfish 14 Stock Enhancement Fund". The funds in this account shall be used solely for the 15 purpose of conserving, restoring, and enhancing the red drum population, including 16 but not limited to the purchase, transportation, tagging, release and monitoring of red 17 drum, genetic testing, hatchery based production and stocking efforts, and academic 18 research. Any appropriations, public or private grants, gifts, or donations received 19 by the state or the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for these purposes shall be 20 credited to the fund. The monies in the fund shall be subject to the same

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

requirements as provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The monies in the

fund shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as the monies in the state

general fund and all interest earned shall be deposited and credited to the fund after

compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of

Louisiana. All unexpended or unencumbered monies remaining in the fund at the

end of the fiscal year shall remain to the credit of the fund.

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)]

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Orgeron

Abstract: Creates the Marine Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund for the purpose of funding red drum conservation and enhancement.

<u>Present law</u> establishes the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Fund and provides for specific uses of accounts and monies in the fund.

<u>Proposed law</u> creates the Marine Finfish Stock Enhancement Fund and requires that monies in the fund be used solely for the purpose of red drum conservation, restoration, and enhancement. Further provides that authorized uses may include the purchase, transportation, tagging, release and monitoring of red drum, genetic testing, hatchery based production and stocking efforts, and academic research.

(Adds R.S. 56:10(B)(19))