The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 243 Original | 2026 Regular Session | Kleinpeter

Present law authorizes wildlife agents and peace officers, with or without a warrant, to stop and board any vessel to address inquiries, require identification of persons and vessels, and examine vessels for compliance with operation and equipment safety laws. Further requires officers to first identify themselves and exempts officers from liability for trespass.

Proposed law retains the duty of wildlife agents and peace officers to enforce the provisions of present law but prohibits an officer from stopping or boarding a vessel for the purpose of enforcing present law unless the officer has probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred or is occurring.

Proposed law retains the requirement that an officer identify himself prior to boarding and retains the exemption from liability for trespass while performing official duties.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 34:851.29)