

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 203

BY SENATOR LAMBERT

FISH/FISHING. Provides for possession of catch during multiday trip. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:325(B)(4) and 325.1(A)(4), relative to possession of
3 recreational fish; to provide for a geographic location; to provide for possession
4 limits; to provide for fishing licenses; to provide for largemouth bass and spotted
5 bass; to provide for red drum and spotted sea trout; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 56:325(B)(4) and 325.1(A)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted to
9 read as follows:

10 §325. Daily take, possession, and size limits; freshwater recreational fish; possession
11 of finfish filets prohibited

12 * * *

13 B.(1) * * *

14 * * *

15 (4) The possession limit for largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and
16 spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*) taken south of U.S. Highway 90 shall be
17 three times the daily take limit when the fisherman holds and is in possession of a

1 valid recreational fishing license and can ~~show~~ **demonstrate to the department's**
 2 **satisfaction use of** a ~~landing receipt from a public~~ boat launch located south of U.S.
 3 Highway 90 ~~that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department~~ **and** that the
 4 fisherman has been actively on the water or at a remote camp that can be accessed
 5 only by water for two days or more. The fish shall be kept whole or whole gutted ~~in~~
 6 ~~separate bags for each species of fish. The bags shall be marked with the date the fish~~
 7 ~~were taken, the species, the number of fish contained in the bag, and the name and~~
 8 ~~license number of the person taking the fish.~~ The fish shall only be in the possession
 9 of the person who took the fish. However, no fisherman shall be actively fishing or
 10 engaged in fishing while in possession of more than the daily take limit.

11 * * *

12 §325.1. Size and possession limits; recreational saltwater finfish; penalties

13 A.(1) * * *

14 * * *

15 (4) The possession limit for red drum and spotted sea trout taken south of
 16 U.S. Highway 90 shall be three times the daily take limit when the fisherman holds
 17 and is in possession of a valid recreational fishing license and can ~~show~~
 18 **demonstrate to the department's satisfaction use of** a ~~landing receipt from a~~
 19 ~~public~~ boat launch located south of U.S. Highway 90 ~~that demonstrates to the~~
 20 ~~satisfaction of the department~~ **and** that the fisherman has been actively on the water
 21 or at a remote camp that can be accessed only by water for two days or more. The
 22 fish shall be kept whole or whole gutted ~~in separate bags for each species of fish. The~~
 23 ~~bags shall be marked with the date the fish were taken, the species, the number of~~
 24 ~~fish contained in the bag, and the name and license number of the person taking the~~
 25 ~~fish.~~ The fish shall only be in the possession of the person who took the fish.
 26 However, no fisherman shall be actively fishing or engaged in fishing while in
 27 possession of more than the daily take limit.

28 * * *

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 203 Engrossed 2026 Regular Session Lambert

Present law allows possession of three times the daily take limit of largemouth bass, spotted bass, red drum, and spotted sea trout taken south of US-90 by the licensed fisherman who took them, where the fisherman shows a receipt for a public launch south of US-90 and that he has been on the water or at a remote camp for at least two days. Further requires the fish be kept whole or gutted, in plastic bags or containers, separated by species and marked with the date taken, species, number of fish, and name and license number of the fisherman who took them.

Proposed law retains present law and removes the requirement that the caught fish be kept in plastic bags or containers marked with catch information. Removes the launch receipt requirement.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 56:325(B)(4) and 325.1(A)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to
the original bill

1. Removes requirement that a fisherman show a public launch receipt.