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## DIGEST

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HB 757 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Cox

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the taking of menhaden.

Present law provides for the taking of freshwater or saltwater fish.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law prohibits any person from knowingly and intentionally authorizing, directing, or having control or ownership of an agent or vessel involved in the taking menhaden for commercial purposes within the area designated by the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries pursuant to the La. Administrative Code.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding the provisions of present law relative to penalties, whoever violates the provisions of proposed law will be held strictly liable for the taking and punished as follows:

- (1) For a first violation, a fine of \$2,500.
- (2) For a second violation, a fine of \$5,000.
- (3) For a third violation, a fine of \$7,5000.

Proposed law defines the term "person".

(Adds R.S. 56:320(J))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Remove the revocation of a commercial fisherman's license as a penalty for violations.
2. Decrease the penalty for a first violation from \$50,000 to \$2,500, for a second violation from \$75,000 to \$5,000, and for a third violation from \$100,000 to \$7,500.
3. Remove the penalty for a fourth violation.

4. Revise the definition for "person" to include only a natural person.