

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 480

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

FISH/FISHING. Provides for anchorage in certain waterways with fishing gear restriction.
(8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 56:499.3(D), relative to butterfly and bottom nets; to provide for the use of butterfly and bottom nets in certain water bodies while the vessel is underway; to provide for anchorage; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:499.3(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§499.3. Butterfly and bottom nets; Oyster Bayou

* * *

D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a boat may anchor in the waters described in Subsection A of this Section if the boat is not anchored within the boundaries of an oyster lease and a person remains aboard while the boat is anchored.

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 480 Engrossed

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Allain

Present law authorizes the use of butterfly and bottom nets in Oyster Bayou to take shrimp only when suspended from a fishing boat which is motor propelled and underway. Further, prohibits using any anchorage or device to connect to the shoreline on such nets.

Proposed law retains present law and allows anchorage provided the boat is not anchored in an oyster lease and at least one person remains aboard while anchored.

(Adds R.S. 56:499.3(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to the original bill

1. Allow boats to anchor in Oyster Bayou provided that boat is not anchored in an oyster lease and one person remains aboard while anchored.
2. Makes technical changes.