

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To enact the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries rule, LAC 76:VII.363(A)(4), which provides for red drum harvest; to create an exception to the prohibition against harvesting red drum over regulatory size limits; to authorize the department to issue special permits for bull red harvest for certain limited tournaments; to provide for eligibility requirements for tournaments; to provide for related matters; and to direct the office of the state register to print the amendments in the Louisiana Administrative Code.

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulates the recreational harvest of red drum, including daily take and possession limits and size limits; and

WHEREAS, department rules establish that the maximum legal size for the taking of red drum is twenty-seven inches total length with the mouth closed; and

WHEREAS, department rules further establish that the possession of a red drum over twenty-seven inches is prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the current size limits were promulgated to reduce the total harvest of red drum for stock recovery; and

WHEREAS, the current size limits are expected to result in a stock recovery greater than the department's management goal; and

WHEREAS, there are several long-standing and well-established annual fishing tournaments in the state that have traditionally included bull redfish categories; and

WHEREAS, based on historical data, the department would still be able to exceed its management goals for red drum stock recovery if these tournaments were allowed to continue offering bull red categories; and

WHEREAS, allowing these tournaments to maintain their traditional bull red categories would help preserve important cultural and recreational activity, and the

associated economic impact that these tournaments bring, without significantly impacting red drum stock recovery efforts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that LAC 76:VII.363(A)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§363. Red Drum - Harvest Regulations

A. Recreational Regulations

\* \* \*

(4) The secretary may, upon the request of an eligible applicant, issue a special permit that allows the taking of red drum in excess of the regulatory size limit for registered participants in a tournament or rodeo that meets the following eligibility requirements:

- (a) The event has been held regularly for five years or more.
- (b) The event has historically included a bull red category.
- (c) The event is no longer than four days long, once a year.

\* \* \*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the office of the state register.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the state register is hereby directed to have the amendments to LAC 76:VII.363(A) printed and incorporated into the Louisiana Administrative Code.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE