### Regular Session, 2014

#### HOUSE BILL NO. 440

### BY REPRESENTATIVES HARRISON, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, WESLEY BISHOP, BROWN, COX, DOVE, GISCLAIR, REYNOLDS, SCHEXNAYDER, THIERRY, WHITNEY, AND PATRICK WILLIAMS

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 56:499(B) and (C), relative to shrimping trawls and skimmer
3	nets; to provide relative to the size and configuration of skimmer nets; and to provide
4	for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 56:499(B) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
7	follows:
8	§499. Trawls, butterfly, and skimmer nets, and cast nets; size of mesh; length;
9	diameter of butterfly and skimmer nets extensions; prohibited devices
10	* * *
11	B.(1) No person shall take saltwater shrimp with any trawl, skimmer net, or
12	butterfly net with a mesh size less than five-eighths of an inch square or one and one-
13	fourth of an inch stretched. No trawl, skimmer net, or butterfly net may be used in
14	closed waters.
15	(2) No person shall use a double butterfly net having an individual net frame
16	more than twelve feet measured horizontally or vertically, whichever distance is
17	greater, each or a single stationary butterfly net having an individual net frame
18	greater than twenty-two feet measured horizontally or vertically, whichever distance
19	is greater, except that persons on a vessel may use a double butterfly net having

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

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individual net frames of not more than sixteen feet measured horizontally or twelve feet measured vertically, each. A skimmer or butterfly net may be mounted no more than twenty-four inches from the side of the vessel. Operation of butterfly and skimmer nets shall in no way impede or restrict normal navigation.

5 (3) No person on a vessel shall use a double skimmer net having an 6 individual net frame more than sixteen feet measured horizontally or twelve feet 7 measured vertically or twenty feet measured diagonally. Reinforcement framing that 8 may be attached to the net frame shall not be considered in determining the 9 dimensions of a double skimmer net. No person shall use a double skimmer net shall 10 have a lead line with an opening measuring more than twenty-eight seventy-two feet 11 in circumference for each net and a lead line greater than thirty-three feet. No person 12 shall tie individual skimmer nets together to exceed the herein stated specifications 13 contained in this Paragraph or use any trawl in conjunction with a butterfly or skimmer. No person shall use a double skimmer net where the horizontal net frame 14 15 extends more than twenty feet from the gunwale of the vessel. Operation of butterfly 16 and skimmer nets shall in no way impede or restrict normal navigation. A skimmer 17 or butterfly net may be mounted no more than twenty-four inches from the side of 18 the vessel.

19 (2) (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection 20 to the contrary, no person shall take saltwater shrimp with a trawl, skimmer net, or 21 butterfly net with a mesh size of less than five-eighths of an inch square or one and 22 one-fourth of an inch stretched in inside waters during the fall inshore shrimp season, 23 except in that portion of the state's inside waters from the Atchafalaya River west to 24 the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, mesh size 25 shall be no less than three-quarters of an inch square or one and one-half of an inch 26 stretched may be used in inside waters during the fall inshore shrimp season.

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1 C. No person shall use sweeper devices, leads, extensions, wings, or other

# 2 attachments in conjunction with or attached to butterfly nets or skimmer nets.

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## SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

## GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_