2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 475

BY REPRESENTATIVE GISCLAIR

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FISHING/CRABS: Provides that the removal of derelict crab traps coincide with the closure of crab season

| 1 | AN ACT | | |
|----|--|--|--|
| 2 | To amend and reenact R.S. 56:332(N)(2)(c) and to enact R.S. 56:332(N)(2)(d), relative to | | |
| 3 | crab fishing; to authorize the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to prohibit crab | | |
| 4 | traps in state-owned water bottoms during closed season; and to provide for related | | |
| 5 | matters. | | |
| 6 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: | | |
| 7 | Section 1. R.S. 56:332(N)(2)(c) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. | | |
| 8 | 56:332(N)(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows: | | |
| 9 | §332. Crabs; release of crabs in berry stage; method of taking crabs; time | | |
| 10 | limitations; by-catch; penalties; abandoned crab trap removal program | | |
| 11 | * * * | | |
| 12 | N. | | |
| 13 | * * * | | |
| 14 | (2) The commission may prohibit crab traps in state-owned lake and river | | |
| 15 | beds and other water bottoms of the state as follows: | | |
| 16 | * * * | | |
| 17 | (c) <u>At any time crab harvest is closed for biological or technical reasons for</u> | | |
| 18 | the duration of the closure. | | |
| 19 | (c) (d) The period of time for the prohibitions of crab traps authorized in | | |
| 20 | Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph shall be specified by the commission for | | |

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

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- 1 each geographical area, which period may be for fewer than the sixteen consecutive
- 2 days, but shall consist of consecutive days within the sixteen-consecutive-day period.

* * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

| HB 475 Engrossed | 2017 Regular Session | Gisclair |
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Abstract: Authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to prohibit certain crab traps when the season is closed for biological or technical reasons.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish a crab traps removal program. Specifies the time periods within which crab traps can be prohibited.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds that crab traps may be prohibited when crab season is closed for biological or technical reasons for the duration of the closure.

(Amends R.S. 56:332(N)(2)(c); Adds R.S. 56:332(N)(2)(d))