HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 296 by Representative Greene

WILDLIFE/HABITAT: Provides for certain uses for monies in the Artificial Reef Development Fund

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Clarifies that the interest income credited to the fund each year may be used for the purposes of proposed law.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law established the Artificial Reef Development Fund. Provides that monies in the fund are to be used for the operation of the artificial reef program in the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, including permitting, establishing, monitoring, and maintenance of the artificial reefs.

Proposed law would allow up to 10% of the annual donations and interest income credited to the fund each year to be used by the department to provide funding for inshore fisheries habitat enhancement projects, particularly in support of the Artificial Reef Program. Provides that such funding may be used for grants to nonprofit conservation organizations working in cooperation with the department.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 56:639.8(E)(3))