

Prior law authorized the year-round sale for raw consumption within the state, oysters which are harvested in La. waters. Requires the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to adopt rules and regulations for enforcement of this authority.

New law retains prior law but requires that during the period from May 1 to Oct. 31 each year, movement of oysters from harvest to refrigeration must take no more than five hours. Further requires that the rules adopted by DHH must allow five hours for such movement.

Prior law authorizes DHH to grant an exemption from the National Shellfish Sanitation Program's *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (*Vp*) and *Vibrio vulnificus* (*Vv*) management plans to harvesters and dealers who have not been epidemiologically linked to a *Vp* or *Vv* oyster-related illness.

New law repeals prior law.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 20, 2011).

(Amends R.S. 56:437; Repeals R.S. 40:5.3.1)