

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 420

BY REPRESENTATIVE ABRAHAM

FISHING/COMMERCIAL: Expands the "Authentic Louisiana" wild seafood certification program criteria

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:578.15(A), relative to the Louisiana Wild Seafood
3 Certification Program; to provide for certain criteria to apply when evaluating
4 whether fish qualify for designation under the program; and to provide for related
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:578.15(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §578.15. Louisiana Wild Seafood Certification Program

9 A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized
10 to establish a quality certification program for Louisiana wild fish, as defined in R.S.
11 56:8, and for Louisiana wild seafood products, including wild-caught shrimp, ~~which~~
12 that are taken; or harvested; or from the Gulf of Mexico and meet any two of the
13 following three criteria:

14 (a) The fish are landed in Louisiana.

15 (b) The fish are processed in Louisiana.

16 (c) The fish are packaged in Louisiana.

17 (2) The program shall be established through the promulgation and adoption
18 of certification standards in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. Such
19 standards may include but are not limited to harvest requirements, post-harvest
20 refrigeration requirements, quality standards, handling practices, traceability,

1 branding and branding registrations, recording requirements, compliance standards,
2 and packaging regulations. The secretary may develop and regulate certification
3 protocols, programs, and establish regulatory authority in cooperation with the
4 Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Louisiana Department of Health
5 and Hospitals, Louisiana State University, and any other state or federal agency
6 deemed appropriate.

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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 420 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Abraham

Abstract: Expands the criteria for designation as "Louisiana Wild Seafood" certification.

Present law establishes the "Louisiana Wild Seafood" quality certification program. Provides that only seafood products, including wild-caught shrimp, that are taken, harvested or landed in La. qualify for such certification.

Proposed law would allow certification for seafood, including wild-caught shrimp, that are taken or harvested from the Gulf of Mexico and meet any two of the following three criteria:

- (1) The fish are landed in Louisiana.
- (2) The fish are processed in Louisiana.
- (3) The fish are packaged in Louisiana.

(Amends R.S. 56:578.15(A))