

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 159

BY SENATOR SMITH

FISH/FISHING. Provides for possession limits of red drum taken by means of bow and arrow. (8/1/20)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 56:325.1(A)(5), relative to fishing; to provide for fishing by bow and arrow;

3 to provide for possession limits, quotas, and daily take limits for red drum taken by

4 bow and arrow; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 56:325.1(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §325.1. Size and possession limits, recreational saltwater finfish; penalties

8 A.

9 \* \* \*

10 **(5) Any red drum, regardless of the actual size, taken by bow and arrow**

11 **shall be retained and count toward any possession limit, quota, or daily take**

12 **limit provided for in this Section or by the rules and regulations promulgated**

13 **pursuant to this Section. Any red drum taken by bow and arrow that measures**

14 **either two inches below the minimum size or two inches above the maximum**

15 **size, shall also be retained and count as a second fish toward any such**

16 **possession limit, quota, or daily take limit.**

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tyler S. McCloud.

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## DIGEST

SB 159 Original

2020 Regular Session

Smith

Present law authorizes the La. Wildlife and Fisheries commission to set possession limits, quotas, places, seasons, times, size limits, and daily take limits for saltwater finfish caught recreationally.

Present law provides that the daily take and possession limits for red drum is five fish daily until such time as the commission establishes daily take and possession limits in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Present law authorizes exceptions for recreational fisherman to possess red drum above the possession limit as follows:

- (1) A fisherman can possess twice the daily bag limit of red drum, but not while fishing or while on the water, unless such recreational saltwater fisherman is aboard a trawler engaged in commercial fishing for a consecutive period longer than 25 hours.
- (2) A fisherman who can demonstrate to the department's satisfaction use of a boat launch located south of U.S. Highway 90 and that the fisherman has been actively on the water or at a remote camp that can be accessed only by water for two days or more can possess up to the possession limit of filleted red drum. The fish may be filleted if certain requirements are met. This exception does not apply while actively fishing or engaged in fishing.
- (3) The possession limit for red drum and spotted sea trout taken south of U.S. Highway 90 shall be three times the daily take limit when the fisherman can show a landing receipt from a public boat launch located south of U.S. Highway 90 that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that the fisherman has been actively on the water or at a remote camp that can be accessed only by water for two days or more. Present law provides for requirements on how the fish are package while in possession. This exception does not apply while actively fishing or engaged in fishing.

Proposed law provides that any red drum, regardless of the actual size, taken by bow and arrow shall be retained and count toward any possession limit, quota, or daily take limit provided for in this Section or by the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to present law. Proposed law further provides any red drum taken by bow and arrow that measures either two inches below the minimum size or two inches above the maximum size, shall also be retained and count as a second fish toward any such possession limit, quota, or daily take limit.

Effective August 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 56:325.1(A)(5))