

SENATE BILL NO. 202

BY SENATOR MORRISH

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:435.1.1(A), relative to oyster harvesting in Calcasieu Lake;
3 to remove the time limitation on the issuance of special permits for oyster harvesting
4 in Calcasieu Lake; to remove the limitations on the number of special permits issued;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:435.1.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §435.1.1. Oyster harvest in Calcasieu Lake

9 A.(1) ~~Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2014, oyster Oyster harvesting in~~
10 Calcasieu Lake shall be prohibited except by special permit issued annually by the
11 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or as authorized by ~~R.S. 56:435.1.1(D)(2)~~
12 **Paragraph (D)(2)** of this Section. ~~There shall be no more than one hundred twenty-~~
13 ~~six such permits issued each year. Sixty-three of the permits shall be issued only to~~
14 ~~a person who can prove through trip ticket landings that he commercially harvested~~
15 ~~oysters from Calcasieu Lake any time since January 1, 2001. The remaining sixty-~~
16 ~~three permits may be issued to any person. The permits shall be issued on a first-~~
17 ~~come-first-served basis determined by the date the application is received by the~~
18 ~~department. Once one hundred twenty-six permits have been issued, there shall be~~
19 ~~no more issued that year. The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations to~~
20 delineate the procedures by which the permits shall be issued.

21 (2) Such permit shall be in addition to all other licenses and permits required
22 for harvesting of oysters. ~~After July 1, 2014, no special permit shall be required to~~
23 ~~harvest oysters in Calcasieu Lake.~~ At all times, such oyster harvesting shall be
24 limited to using tongs; , a hand dredge; , a single dredge with mechanical assist that
25 has a tooth bar no more than thirty-six inches long; or use of a single scraper with
26 mechanical assist and a flat bar length of no more than thirty-six inches is allowed.

27 * * *

1 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
5 effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____