



January 15, 2025

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## SENATE BILL No. 121

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DIGEST OF SB 121 (Updated January 13, 2025 3:38 pm - DI 140)

**Citations Affected:** IC 14-8; IC 14-22.

**Synopsis:** Restrictions on using nets or traps for minnows. Prohibits the use of specific devices to take minnows from a waterway unless certain conditions are met. Provides an exemption for bait dealers and individuals with a scientific purposes license.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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## Deery, Crider, Baldwin

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January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.  
January 14, 2025, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SB 121—LS 6054/DI 148





January 15, 2025

First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 121

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 14-8-2-167, AS AMENDED BY P.L.289-2013,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 167. "Minnow", for purposes of IC 14-22,  
4 **includes the species of fish that the department determines by rule has**  
5 **the meaning set forth in 312 IAC 9-6-1 (as in effect on July 1,**  
6 **2025).**

7 SECTION 2. IC 14-8-2-269.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
8 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: **Sec. 269.5. "Sugar Creek", for**  
10 **purposes of IC 14-22-9-3.5, refers to the tributary stream that**  
11 **originates in Tipton County and travels southwest through the**  
12 **following counties before merging with the Wabash River:**

- 13 (1) **Clinton.**  
14 (2) **Boone.**  
15 (3) **Montgomery.**  
16 (4) **Parke.**

17 SECTION 3. IC 14-22-9-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE

SB 121—LS 6054/DI 148



- 1 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2025]: **Sec. 3.5. (a) This section does not apply to the following:**  
3 **(1) A bait dealer licensed under IC 14-22-16.**  
4 **(2) An individual who possesses a scientific purposes license**  
5 **issued under IC 14-22-22.**  
6 **(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), an individual may not**  
7 **use the following devices to take minnows from a waterway:**  
8 **(1) A dip net.**  
9 **(2) A cast net.**  
10 **(3) A minnow trap.**  
11 **(4) A minnow seine.**  
12 **(c) An individual may use a device described in subsection (b) to**  
13 **take minnows from a waterway if all of the following conditions**  
14 **are met:**  
15 **(1) The individual:**  
16 **(A) takes only the minnows that can be reasonably used**  
17 **before the end of the day in which the minnows were**  
18 **caught;**  
19 **(B) uses the minnows as bait to fish;**  
20 **(C) possesses a pole and line needed to fish;**  
21 **(D) keeps the minnows near the individual's pole and line;**  
22 **and**  
23 **(E) returns any unused minnows at the end of the day to**  
24 **the waterway from which the minnows were caught.**  
25 **(2) The minnows that are taken are not transported away**  
26 **from the waterway in which the minnows were caught.**  
27 **(3) The waterway from which the minnows were caught is not**  
28 **Sugar Creek.**



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 121, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 121 as introduced.)

GLICK, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1

