

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 245

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON AND SENATOR MORRELL

FISHING: Removes the sunset date for deposits from the Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund to the Underwater Obstruction Fund

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:700.2(A)(4) and to repeal R.S. 30:101.11, relative to the
3 Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund and the Fishermen's Gear Compensation
4 Fund; to remove the termination date for deposits from the Fishermen's Gear
5 Compensation Fund to the Underwater Obstruction Fund; to remove the termination
6 date from the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund; and to provide for related
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 56:700.2(A)(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §700.2. Establishment, continuance, and purposes of fund; geographical coverage;
11 assessments

12 A. There is hereby established in the state treasury a Fishermen's Gear
13 Compensation Fund into which amounts paid pursuant to this Section shall be
14 deposited. The fund shall be available to the secretary only for the following
15 purposes:

16 * * *

17 (4) ~~On July 1, 2001 and on each July first thereafter and ending after June~~
18 ~~30, 2012, the~~ The state treasurer shall annually deposit ~~annually~~, the amount of two
19 hundred fifty thousand dollars into the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund as

1 provided in R.S. 30:101.9. The department shall seek to match these funds with
2 whatever federal or state funds may be available for such purposes.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. R.S. 30:101.11 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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

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)]

Harrison

HB No. 245

Abstract: Removes the termination date for deposits from the Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund to the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund and removes the termination date for the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund.

Present law establishes the Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund to provide for compensation to commercial fishermen whose fishing gear is damaged as a result of shagging underwater obstructions when the owner of such obstruction cannot be determined.

Present law further establishes the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund to provide funds to locate and remove underwater obstructions when the owner of such obstruction cannot be determined.

Present law, until June 30, 2012, further provides for an annual transfer of \$250,000 from the Fisherman's Gear Compensation Fund into the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund.

Proposed law removes the termination date for the transfer of funds from the Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund into the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund.

Proposed law further removes the termination date for the Underwater Obstruction Removal Fund.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 56:700.2(A)(4); Repeals R.S. 30:101.11)