

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 352

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOURRIAQUE

WILDLIFE/ENFORCEMENT: Prohibits the collection or harvest of turtle eggs and diamondback terrapins

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:635 and to repeal R.S. 56:326(A)(11), relative to turtles; to  
3 prohibit the collection or harvest of diamondback terrapins; to prohibit the collection  
4 or harvest of the eggs of any species of turtles; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 56:635 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §635. Diamondback terrapins; trapping; turtle eggs

8 ~~A.~~ No person shall take, collect, or harvest diamondback terrapins by any  
9 means ~~of traps of any kind~~, and no person shall take, collect, or harvest the eggs of  
10 any species of turtle, ~~except the red ear (Trachemys Scripta), wherever found.~~

11 ~~B.~~ No person shall ship diamondback terrapins out of the state between the  
12 fifteenth of April and the fifteenth of June. All diamondback terrapins caught by any  
13 means whatsoever during that period shall be immediately returned to the water  
14 alive.

15 Section 2. R.S. 56:326(A)(11) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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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)]

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HB 352 Original

2020 Regular Session

Bourriaque

**Abstract:** Prohibits the harvest of diamondback terrapins and prohibits the harvest of the eggs of any species of turtles.

Present law prohibits the trapping of diamondback terrapins and prohibits taking the terrapins out of the state between April 15th and June 15th each year. Further prohibits taking the eggs of any species of turtle, except the red ear (*Trachemys Scripta*).

Proposed law prohibits the taking of diamondback terrapins by any means and prohibits the taking of eggs of any species of turtle with no exceptions.

Present law provides for a 6-inch size limit for the taking of diamondback terrapins.

Proposed law repeals the size limit.

(Amends R.S. 56:635; Repeals R.S. 56:326(A)(11))