

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 668

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILL

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FISHING/SHRIMP: Repeals the prohibition on enforcement of the federal TEDS in shrimp nets requirement

1 AN ACT

2 To repeal R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 283 of the 1987 Regular Session of the Louisiana  
3 Legislature and R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 891 of the 1987 Regular Session of  
4 the Louisiana Legislature, as amended, relative to enforcement of the federal  
5 requirement for the use of turtle excluder devices in shrimp trawls; to repeal the  
6 prohibition on such enforcement; to require the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force to  
7 report to the legislature recommendations for legislation applicable to enforcement  
8 of the federal requirements for the use of turtle excluder devices in shrimp trawls  
9 used in state waters; to require wildlife agents to wear body cameras; and to provide  
10 for related matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 283 of the 1987 Regular Session of the  
13 Louisiana Legislature and R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 891 of the 1987 Regular Session  
14 of the Louisiana Legislature, as amended, are hereby repealed in their entirety.

15 Section 2. From August 1, 2015 to August 1, 2018, a wildlife agent shall wear an  
16 electronic device capable of recording video and audio data or capable of transmitting video  
17 and audio data to be recorded remotely at all times while enforcing turtle excluder device  
18 requirements.

19 Section 3. No later than February 1, 2018, the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force shall  
20 submit a written report to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and  
21 the Senate Committee on Natural Resources with recommendations for whether or not the  
22 use of turtle excluder devices should be enforced in state waters and the rules and regulations  
23 under which such devices should be enforced in state waters.

1 Section 4. After the passage of this Act, any person operating as a retail seller of  
2 seafood who boycotts or otherwise refuses to purchase shrimp caught in Louisiana waters  
3 shall not be eligible for any tax credit or rebates or any other type of incentive provided by  
4 the state.

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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 668 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

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**Abstract:** Repeals the prohibition on enforcement of the federal rules on the use of turtle excluder devices in shrimp trawls used in state waters.

Present law prohibits the enforcement in state waters of federal regulations that require the use of turtle excluder devices in shrimp trawls until certain conditions and data can be determined and verified.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires wildlife agents to wear body cameras from Aug. 1, 2015 to Aug. 1, 2016, at all times while enforcing turtle excluder device requirements.

Proposed law requires the La. Shrimp Task Force to submit a written report to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources by Feb. 1, 2018, with recommendations for whether or not the use of turtle excluder devices should be enforced in state waters and the rules and regulations under which such devices should be enforced in state waters.

Proposed law provides any seafood retailer who boycotts shrimp caught in La. waters after the passage of proposed law shall be ineligible for any tax credit or rebates or any other type of incentive provided by the state.

(Repeals R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 283 of the 1987 R.S. and R.S. 56:57.2 as enacted by Act 891 of the 1987 R.S. as amended)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Require wildlife agents to wear body cameras from Aug. 1, 2015 to Aug. 1, 2016, at all times while enforcing turtle excluder device requirements.
2. Make any seafood retailer who boycotts shrimp caught in La. waters after the passage of proposed law ineligible for any tax credit or rebates or any other type of incentive provided by the state.