

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY REPRESENTATIVES COX AND BURFORD

FISHING/RECREATIONAL: Requests the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to reexamine the agreement relative to creel limits applicable to waters shared between Louisiana and Texas

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the
3 Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to reexamine the agreement relative to creel
4 limits applicable to waters shared between Louisiana and Texas.

5 WHEREAS, after many years of separate and inconsistent fishing regulations
6 adopted and enforced by the states of Texas and Louisiana on shared waters in Caddo Lake,
7 Toledo Bend Reservoir, and the Sabine River, and several failed attempts at compromise,
8 in 2011, the two states tried once again to come to an agreement as to standard size and creel
9 limits; and

10 WHEREAS, through diligent efforts and amicable cooperation between the resource
11 agencies of the two states, agreement was reached on size and creel limits and new duplicate
12 fishing regulations were enacted by both states with application of the new regulations
13 beginning on September 1, 2011; and

14 WHEREAS, although consistency of regulations on shared waters eases enforcement
15 of regulations, there is a general sense in the fishing community that use those shared waters
16 that compromise was reached through Louisiana agreeing to large reductions in their
17 traditional take limits while Texas anglers were faced with only minor changes to their
18 traditional fishing regulations and size limits; and

19 WHEREAS, Louisiana anglers are frustrated by the very restrictive take limits,
20 particularly by the fact that the new regulations were adopted after many years of abiding

1 by regulations that allowed a fisherman to take enough fish to easily feed his family
2 throughout the year; and

3 WHEREAS, although the fishermen understand the value of consistency and ease
4 of enforcement, they are frustrated that the fact that the consistency and ease is being
5 pursued at the cost of the fishermen's enjoyment of the sport and ability to feed his family.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
7 urge and request the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife
8 and Fisheries Commission to reexamine the agreement relative to creel limits applicable to
9 waters shared between Louisiana and Texas.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
11 secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the chairman of the Wildlife and
12 Fisheries Commission.

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)]

Cox

HCR No. 135

Requests the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to reexamine the agreement relative to creel limits applicable to waters shared between La. and Texas.