

SENATE BILL 2690

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and
Title 70, relative to Asian carp.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, is amended by adding the
following as a new part:

4-3-3101.

(a) In order to advance as an official policy of this state the protection of
native fish species, the fishing and boating recreation industries in this state, and
the well being of persons who seek to enjoy the use of the waters of the state
through the removal of bighead carp, black carp, grass carp, and silver carp,
collectively referred to as "Asian carp", from the waters of the state, there is
hereby created the Asian carp advisory commission, to be composed of the
following members:

- (1) The commissioner of the department of environment and
conservation, or the commissioner's designee;
- (2) The chair of the Tennessee fish and wildlife commission;
- (3) One (1) person appointed by the speaker of the house of
representatives;
- (4) One (1) person appointed by the speaker of the senate; and
- (5) One (1) person appointed by the governor.

(b) The member who is appointed by the governor shall serve as the
chair of the advisory commission and shall have the title "Asian carp czar".

(c) The commissioner of the department of environment and conservation, or the commissioner's designee shall call the first meeting of the advisory commission. The chair shall call all subsequent meetings of the advisory commission. The advisory commission shall meet no less than two (2) times per year.

(d) In the event of a vacancy on the advisory commission, the commissioner of the department of environment and conservation shall cause the appropriate appointing authority to be notified so that a replacement member may be appointed.

(e) For administrative purposes only, the advisory commission shall be jointly attached to the department of environment and conservation and the Tennessee wildlife resources agency.

(f) Unless extended by the general assembly, the advisory commission is abolished on June 30, 2024.

4-3-3102.

(a) The Asian carp advisory commission shall:

(1) Formulate and recommend strategies and methods for the reduction and eradication of Asian carp from the waters of the state, including, but not limited to, encouraging the consumption of Asian carp, thereby increasing the commercial viability of harvesting Asian carp; and

(2) Seek funding from public and private sources for the implementation of strategies and methods for the reduction and eradication of Asian carp from the waters of the state.

(b) All state and local government entities shall exercise best efforts to carry out the advisory commission's recommendations for the reduction and eradication of Asian carp from the waters of the state.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.