AS PASSED BY THE SENATE

May 12, 2009

**H. 3572**

Introduced by Rep. Umphlett

S. Printed 5/12/09--S.

Read the first time April 23, 2009.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY REPEALING SECTION 50‑5‑1707 RELATING TO SHARK CATCH LIMITS.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 50‑5‑1707 of the 1976 Code is repealed.

SECTION 2. Article 1, Chapter 13, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑13‑400. (A) In Lake Murray it is unlawful to take or possess more than twenty crappie (Pomoxis spp.) per day.

(B) In Lake Murray it is unlawful to take or possess crappie (Pomoxis spp.) less than eight inches in total length.”

SECTION 3. Chapter 13, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑13‑2017. (A) There is established the Flounder Population Study Program to be administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The program shall study the effects of flounder catch limits and the prohibition of artificial illumination powered by generators on flounder of the species *Paralichthys dentatus*, commonly known as the summer flounder, located in the waters of Murrells Inlet Estuary, Pawleys Island Estuary, and the creeks of Litchfield flowing into Pawleys Island Estuary. For purposes of this resolution, ‘gigging’ means using a rod with one or multiple prongs to spear a fish.

(B) During the term of the program in the area defined in subsection (A):

(1) the lawful flounder gigging and fishing catch limit is ten per day for any individual, not to exceed twenty flounder in any one day on any boat;

(2) it is unlawful to use any type of artificial illumination powered by generator while gigging or fishing for flounder from a boat or while wading in the water.

(C) A person violating a provision of subsection (B) is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than ten dollars or more than one hundred dollars per fish, or imprisoned not less than ten days or more than thirty days, or both.

(D) The program shall run for five years, beginning January 1, 2010, and ending December 31, 2015.

(E) The Department of Natural Resources must compile its findings and submit the report to the General Assembly by March 16, 2016.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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