**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑5‑1540, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO NET PLACEMENTS, SO AS TO REDUCE THE MINIMUM DISTANCE REQUIRED BETWEEN NETS ON THE LITTLE PEE DEE RIVER FROM SIX HUNDRED FEET TO SEVENTY‑FIVE FEET.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑5‑1540 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑5‑1540. (A) No shad, herring, or sturgeon net, including its cables, lines, or attached devices, either set, drift, or fished in the waters of this State may be of a length greater than one‑half the normal width of the water body at the place where used, regardless of the stage of the tide, river stage, water level, or method of net deployment.

(B) No net may be:

(1) set within six hundred feet of ~~any~~ a gill net previously set;

(2) drifted within six hundred feet of another drifting net; or

(3) placed or set within seventy‑five feet of the confluence of ~~any~~ a tributary.

(C) Notwithstanding another provision of law, along the Little Pee Dee River, no net may be:

(1) set within seventy‑five feet of a gill net previously set;

(2) drifted within seventy‑five feet of another drifting net; or

(3) placed or set within seventy‑five feet of the confluence of a tributary.

(D) Nothing in this section prevents a lawfully drifted gill net from passing within six hundred feet of a lawfully anchored gill net.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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